



Mubarak, Qadhafi discuss Gulf

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak Monday held talks with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on the confrontation between Iraq and the U.S.-led allies, an official said. Presidential spokesman Mohammed Abdul Menem said the two leaders "focused during their meeting on the escalation and the sad situation in Iraq and studied the possible developments in Iraq and the Gulf." He said they also discussed "a number of international, regional and Arab issues." Col. Qadhafi, whose country is under air sanctions, drove to Egypt Sunday. He was expected to go to the Mediterranean city of Alexandria the following day, but he headed straight for Cairo to meet Mr. Mubarak. Mr. Mubarak held an official welcome ceremony for his guest at the presidential Khaba Palace and then the two leaders started talks behind closed doors. Egypt was a main Arab participant in the U.S.-led multinational force that ousted Iraq from Kuwait in the 1991 Gulf war. Libya was against the coalition but did not support Iraq's invasion of the emirate. In the renewed confrontation between Iraq and the allies, both countries have expressed concern over the use of force against another Arab country. But while Egypt blamed Iraq for provoking the strike by breaching the ceasefire resolution, Libya accused the allies of unwarranted force.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية، سياسية، تصدر بالإنجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية، الرأى

Russia seeks Security Council talks

MOSCOW (R) — Russia, hinting at its unease over the increasing military action against Iraq, Monday called for a new meeting of the United Nations Security Council. A Foreign Ministry statement repeated the Russian leadership's view that Iraq had provoked the crisis. But it did not specifically endorse Sunday's cruise missile attacks and Monday's new air strikes and appeared to imply concern they might exceed their U.N. mandate. "Our firm position is that reaction to the actions of Iraq must be proportion and only according to agreed decision," it said. "The time is ripe to consider again the situation (in the Gulf) in the U.N. Security Council."

Volume 17 Number 5211

AMMAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 1993, RAJAB 26, 1413

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Allies unleash fresh attacks on Iraq

21 killed in American-British-French air raids near 'no-fly' zones; U.S. confirms cruise hit Al Rashid

Baghdad vows to defend its land and airspace

Combined agency dispatches

ALLIED WARPLANES raided military targets in northern and southern Iraq Monday, while Baghdad residents expressed outrage over a U.S. cruise missile attack the night before.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported that 21 people were killed and one was wounded Monday. France, Britain or the United States reported no casualties among their forces in the confrontation over Baghdad's compliance with U.N. resolutions and allied-imposed "no-fly" zones.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz issued a statement Monday night blaming the U.N. special commission, in charge of weapons inspections in Iraq, as well as the United States for the bombardments. He said the attacks "raised serious questions" about future Iraqi compliance with the commission because of Washington's influence on the international agency.

As night fell over Baghdad, sirens sounded and a barrage of anti-aircraft fire illuminated the sky for a short time. However, there were no signs of allied aircraft or missiles.

At the Pentagon, a senior official said the tracer fire was not triggered by any allied military attack. The anti-aircraft artillery barrage in Baghdad was "just nervous, itchy trigger fingers," said the official.

Baghdad residents were furious and there was weeping in neighbourhoods hit by cruise missiles the night before.

"Kill Bush," said Fouzi Salman Al Bandar. His neighbour, 70-year-old Botheina Kambarga, was killed in Sunday night's missile attack on a factory Washington claimed was used in nuclear weapons production outside the capital.

But journalists who visited the plant Monday said it appeared to be a factory to make moulds and dies as reported by Iraqis Sunday. Iraq said it was just an industrial plant where U.N. inspectors dismantling Iraq's weapons of mass destruction under the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire had put some equipment under seal but



Iraqi women cry at the funeral of a woman killed in Sunday's American missile attack on Baghdad

given the factory as a whole a clean bill of health.

An official of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna said the facility was no

longer of great importance to Iraq's nuclear weapons program, dealt a crippling blow in the

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King voices deep regret over flare-up, blames Arab inability

Lower House denounces attacks on Iraq

By Ayman Al Safadi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein Monday expressed "deep anger" at what he described as "unacceptable and sorrowful developments" in the Gulf between the Western-led alliance and Iraq.

These are "moment of sorrow and anger. (These feelings) are not shown on the face but (are) in the heart of all Arabs," the King told reporters at Amman military airport upon return home after a three-day visit to Oman.

Directly blaming Arab countries for failing to resolve the Gulf crisis when it first erupted in August 1990, King Hussein said the recent escalation of hostilities between Iraq and the Western coalition might have its roots in the Arabs' initial failure to settle the conflict on their own, "giving

others the chance to interfere with their affairs."

Reports conflict

AMMAN (Petra) — A Foreign Ministry spokesman quoted a cable from the Jordanian embassy in Baghdad as saying that there were no casualties among Jordanian nationals living in the Iraqi capital in Sunday's missile attack on Baghdad.

The report said that all the members of the Jordanian delegation to an Islamic conference underway in the Iraqi capital were safe.

But a Petra report from the Iraqi capital said that among two women workers killed at Al Rashid Hotel in Baghdad was a Jordanian identified as Rafah Fakmi Abu Ghurib. There was no immediate explanation to the conflicting reports.

"More than anybody else, I tried to deal with the problems and crises that faced us since 1990 within the Arab family, but we were unfortunately unable to do that," the King recalled.

"I believe the Arab World shares a great deal of the blame for what happened (by denying) ourselves the chance to deal with the dangerous crisis that faced us and solve it peacefully," he said.

Reaffirming Jordan's stand that chances for finding a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis were not fully exhausted, the King said: "No-one could be happy over the use of force in the area."

But "it is up for the Iraqi people to decide what to do," he said.

The King said he hoped the Arabs would deal with the

(Continued on page 5)

Algeria to try 48 on death charges

ALGIERS (R) — An Algerian military court this week will try 48 Muslim extremists, including some 27 members of the armed forces, on charges punishable by death. Le Matin newspaper said Monday. One trial, of 18 men, charged with "terrorist" attacks in Laghouat region, 330 kilometres south of Algiers, will start Wednesday. The second, of 30 people — all servicemen except for three or four civilians — is due to start two days later. Le Matin said they faced charges including undermining state security, conspiracy and running an armed band, punishable by death.

Rafsanjani urges Lebanese to unite

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani Monday urged all groups in Lebanon to unite and rebuild their war-ravaged country. He told Nabih Berri, speaker of Lebanon's parliament and leader of the Shiite Amal Movement, in Tehran that Iran was ready to help Lebanon's reconstruction, the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) reported. "It is about time that all groups in Lebanon, while exercising vigilance, closed ranks and made reconstruction efforts so as to stop outsiders and enemies from penetrating or exploiting their country," it quoted Mr. Rafsanjani as saying.

300 feared buried in Turkish avalanche

ANKARA (AP) — An avalanche buried 50 houses in north-eastern Turkey Monday and 300 people were feared trapped under tonnes of snow, Anatolia news agency said. The disaster occurred in Ozengeli, 35 kilometres from the provincial centre of Bayburt, the agency said. The area is 800 kilometres east of Ankara. The news agency quoted a village as saying 50 of the 85 houses were buried.

Israelis kill 3 Palestinians, including children, in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army killed three Palestinians in a clash with stone-throwers in the occupied Gaza Strip, international relief workers said Monday.

The deaths, which stemmed from an incident on Sunday, brought to seven the number of Palestinians killed by soldiers in five days in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. An eighth was shot dead by a civilian after stabbing and wounded four people at the Tel Aviv bus station Friday.

The army said troops opened fire on stone-throwers in Gaza's Shaf refugee camp Sunday, killing two Palestinian teenagers. A third Palestinian died of wounds Monday morning, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Gaza said.

Marwan Dababesh, 13, was killed instantly in the clash. Hamdi Abu Hasira, 15, was wounded and died later Sunday. Jihad Muhaisen, 22, died Monday at

Gaza's Shifa hospital. Eight were wounded in the clash, UNRWA said.

The army said it was checking the report of the third death. Figures compiled by Reuters show a sharp rise in the number of Palestinians killed by Israeli soldiers in the past two months, especially children.

Four Palestinian youngsters under the age of 15 were killed since Thursday in the Gaza Strip. In the five-year Palestinian revolt against military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israelis have killed 995 Palestinians, according to Reuters. An AP count put the figure at 1,018.

On Sunday, a cabinet minister, Yossi Sarid, urged Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to establish better controls to prevent killings of children by troops, the Jerusalem Post daily said.

"Too many kids are getting killed," the Post quoted Mr. Sarid as telling the weekly cabinet session. The minister demanded

that the government be briefed about every army investigation of the death of a minor.

Two members of Mr. Rabin's Labour Party, ministers Uzi Baram and Chaim Ramon, asked Mr. Rabin to bar soldiers from using live gunfire in dispersing Palestinian protests in refugee camps, the Davar daily said. Mr. Rabin, who doubles as defence minister, refused, saying such a step would endanger the soldiers' lives.

Asked about the large number of children killed in Gaza in recent weeks, a military official said Monday: "I don't think this is part of any pattern. Unfortunately, we recently faced a wave of violence, especially in the Gaza Strip which has also claimed Israeli casualties."

Sunday's violence came as many Palestinians in the occupied territories observed a daylong general strike called to mark a

(Continued on page 2)

Prince Hassan meets German leaders

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday met in Bonn with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and discussed with him the latest developments in the Gulf.

Prince Hassan, who arrived in Bonn Sunday on a six-day visit to Germany, also discussed with Mr. Kohl the issue of the over 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel and Jordanian-German relations.

Prince Hassan lauded Jordanian-German relations and expressed appreciation for the German government's continued support for the Kingdom in economic, scientific and technological fields.

Prince Hassan also met with German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and discussed with him the role of Europe in general and the role of Germany in particular in supporting the Middle East peace process.

The Crown Prince stressed the need for Germany to view the Middle East and the Mediterranean regions as a one region since the regional political elements are inter-related, whether in terms of security, energy or human resources.

He also underlined the importance of implementing unified standards in tackling the region's problems so as to reach a just conception of security and regional cooperation in the Middle East.

Mr. Kinkel expressed his government's appreciation for His Majesty King Hussein's leading and positive role in dealing with the region's issues.

In an interview with Jordan Television, Prince Hassan said he carried an invitation to non-governmental organisations to take part in an Asian-Arab meeting due to be held in Amman.

Prince Hassan told JTV that although he sprained his ankle while in London, he will carry out his full programme in Germany. He was seen on television walking with the help of crutches.

Prince Hassan commended the hospitality in which he was received in his visit to Germany, the first since the unification of West and East Germany.

Prince Hassan also met with ambassadors of Arab and Muslim states in Bonn. At the meeting,

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Arabs question 'double standard' in application of U.N. resolutions

Combined agency dispatches

THE LATEST ALLIED attacks against Iraq were met with renewed bluster from Baghdad and questions to other Arab states about why American resolve to enforce U.N. resolutions did not extend to Israel and Bosnia.

Arab countries, many of which supported the U.S.-led drive to boot Iraq out of Kuwait two years ago, complained about a double standard of attacking Iraq while Western powers shy away from military force to aid Muslims in Bosnia or sanctions to force Israel to take back Palestinians expelled to Lebanon.

The Arab League, in the strongest Arab reaction so far to military strikes on Iraq, urged the U.S.-led allies to show restraint in the attacks, which Iraq says have killed at least 43 people since last Wednesday.

The league also called on Baghdad to quickly withdraw its police units from Kuwait.

"The Arab League rejects the use of force to solve conflicts

between countries and regrets the policy of escalation against Iraq ... which extended to include bombings of Iraqi civilian targets inside Baghdad, inflicting civilian casualties among the brotherly Iraqi people," it said in a statement.

"The (league) stresses the need to exercise self-restraint and resort to dialogue. At the same time, it asks Iraq to quickly withdraw its police units from Kuwaiti territory and to respect the sovereignty and independence of Kuwait which is also a member of the Arab League," it added.

The league urged the international community not to use double standards in applying U.N. Security Council resolutions in order not to "cause a loss of confidence and trigger negative reactions in the Arab and Islamic worlds."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa said his country continued to demand "respect for international legitimacy," from Iraq.

The allied assaults were conde-

nned by Libya and Iran and praised by Israel.

In the Arab World, however, the fear of Iraq that built the U.S.-Arab Gulf war alliance was offset by the feeling that President George Bush was overstepping his U.N. mandate in renewed raids on Iraq.

Lahib Kambawi, a prominent Jordanian political scientist, said Arabs were shifting their pro-Western stance, but falling short of lining up behind Iraq. "They are becoming neither anti-Iraq nor pro-coalition, which is a major development," Mr. Kambawi said, adding the latest attacks were helping Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "rally his people behind him."

Newspapers in Gulf countries said the West was ignoring U.N. Security Council resolutions demanding Israel take back 400 expelled Palestinians and urging protection for Bosnian Muslims.

"We deplore this two-faced policy. We have to say this kind

(Continued on page 2)

Clinton says no change in Iraq policy

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President-elect Bill Clinton, his inaugural festivities obscured by tensions with Iraq, vowed Monday not to change America's hardline policy toward Iraq when he takes office Wednesday.

In remarks to the diplomatic corps, Mr. Clinton said Iraq must understand "that America's resolve during this transition period will not waiver."

"I support the international community's actions designed to bring (Iraq) to full compliance with all United Nations Security Council resolutions," he said.

"The policy of this country (towards Iraq) will remain American policy after Jan. 20," he told the reception at Georgetown University.

Mr. Clinton takes the oath of office at noon (1700 GMT) Wednesday. He arrived in Washington Sunday in a bus caravan, reminiscent of his triumphant campaign, to kick off four days of inaugural festivities, overshadowed somewhat by the third of U.S.-led attacks on Iraq in six days.

Mr. Clinton told foreign diplomats that his foreign policy would be built on three pillars. First,

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Gharekhan due in Israel to pursue evictee efforts

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said a U.N. envoy would arrive Tuesday for a third attempt to persuade Israel to repatriate hundreds of Palestinians it expelled to Lebanon.

Speaking on Monday after opposition groups in parliament called for debate on possible U.N. sanctions against Israel, Mr. Rabin told members of his ruling Labour Party that his contacts with the United Nations on the expulsions were continuing.

"A United Nations envoy will arrive in Israel on Tuesday evening and I will meet him on Wednesday," he said.

A foreign ministry spokeswoman said U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali's envoy would be Chinnaya Gharekhan, who concluded an unsuccessful mission last week.

Another envoy failed in December to win Israeli compliance with a U.N. Security Council resolution demanding the return of over 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel on Dec. 17.

The evictees remain stranded in an icy land between Israeli and Lebanese lines on the edge of the strip of Lebanese territory occupied by Israel. Neither country will accept responsibility for them.

Dr. Ghali has hinted at sanc-

tions against Israel if it refuses to implement Security Council Resolution 799 by bringing home the expellees.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa warned Sunday the Middle East saw a double standard in the treatment of Israel and Iraq. He failed in talks with Mr. Rabin to persuade him to obey the U.N. demand.

"Israel, which has ignored numerous U.N. resolutions over the years, has expressed the hope Washington will veto any attempt to impose sanctions."

Mr. Gharekhan, the United Nations envoy, was meeting officials of the Red Cross in Geneva Monday to discuss the plight of the Palestinian evictees.

Mr. Gharekhan and officials from the International Committee of the Red Cross were to discuss the issue, a spokesman said.

The ICRC said Sunday it had shelved a plan to use a U.N. helicopter to take medicine to the Palestinians and evacuate nine expelled Israel said were expelled by mistake.

It said the plan was put on hold because of conditions imposed by the United Nations. The Red Cross was now seeking to go by land.

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Budget

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Clinton backs Bush action against Iraq as appropriate

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President-elect Bill Clinton said Sunday the U.S. missile strike against Iraq was "appropriate and forceful." His press secretary said the incoming administration was "prepared to continue taking appropriate action until Iraq complies."

Mr. Clinton and his advisers took a tough line towards Iraq as the incoming president arrived in Washington for his inauguration on Wednesday.

Moments after Mr. Clinton's plane pulled up to the Lincoln Memorial for an inaugural ceremony, his deputy national security adviser, Sandy Berger, boarded the vehicle to brief the incoming president.

There was no sign of retreat from the military confrontations between the Bush administration and Iraq. "We're prepared to continue taking appropriate action until Iraq complies," said Press Secretary Dee Dee Myers.

Mr. Clinton's communications chief, George Stephanopoulos, said Iraq leader Saddam Hussein "doesn't realise that there is no daylight between President Bush and President Clinton on this."

Mr. Stephanopoulos said Mr. Clinton "is determined to be tough" with the Iraqi leader.

"We've been fully briefed. We've been in regular contact," Mr. Clinton said of the increase in tensions that put a shadow over his otherwise festive journey through the Virginia countryside to the nation's capital.

"Saddam Hussein's continuing provocation has been met by appropriate and forceful response. I fully support President Bush's action," Mr. Clinton said.

"Saddam Hussein should be very clear in understanding that the current and the next administration are in complete agreement on the necessity of his fully complying with all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions."

Of the shooting down of an Iraqi fighter in the northern Iraq "no-fly" zone, Mr. Myers said: "He supports the action."

Clinton adviser Nancy Soderberg was with him on the tour and was keeping in constant touch by phone with Mr. Clinton's national security advisers Anthony Lake and Samuel Berger in Washington.

Mr. Lake, in turn, was keeping in touch with National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft and other members of the Bush team.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Mr. Clinton had "not been asked for his approval" of Bush administration actions.

"But we have tried to keep him informed every step of the way. President-elect Clinton has the benefit of all the details."

Mr. Clinton has been fully supportive of the Bush administration's handling of the latest Iraqi crisis, including last week's strike on Iraqi anti-aircraft installations.

And, he told reporters last week in Little Rock, that he would not rule out using force against Iraq, nor would he consider normalising relations with Iraq while President Saddam remains as ruler.

Meanwhile, in an interview on ABC-TV's "This Week with David Brinkley," Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said: "I think Saddam Hussein's brain is wired differently than the people I deal with on a regular basis."

"It doesn't make any sense, from my perspective, what he's doing now. But obviously he's got some rationale."

On Mr. Clinton's comments last week in a New York Times interview that he was not obsessed with President Saddam, Mr. Cheney said:

"There is Saddam Hussein out there and Iraq and the Persian Gulf and it is a problem, but it's one of a long list of problems that Governor Clinton is going to have to deal with as soon as he becomes president on the 20th."

In an NBC interview, Mr. Clinton agreed that President Saddam might be testing him because of his lack of military experience.

But he said Iraq and other potential enemies would be "very foolish" to misjudge his intentions to act as commander-in-chief because he did not serve in the military.

Major: Allies unanimous
British Prime Minister John Major said there was complete agreement among the allies over Sunday's attack.

"Speaking briefly outside 10 Downing Street, the prime minister said the action was taken 'after a great deal of consideration, after a great deal of con-

sultation and after giving Iraq every opportunity to comply with the Security Council resolutions."

"They were aware that they were breaking them," he said. "They were blatantly breaking them, they were aware that they were at risk of a response, and after very careful consultation between the allies, there was a response."

Asked by a reporter if he had recommended caution to President Bush, he replied: "No. There's complete agreement between the allies about the nature and timing of the response this evening."

"It's been discussed for two or three days. I've had a number of discussions over the weekend with President Bush. The outcome of those discussions and with (French) President Francois Mitterrand and others was the action taken this evening," Mr. Major said.

The prime minister did not agree with a suggestion that the action might escalate problems in the region.

"The problem originally was the invasion of Kuwait and that came from Iraq," he said. "The disobedience of the Security Council resolutions is by Iraq."

"This is not just occasional disobedience. It is willful disobedience of the requirements of the international community time and time again," he said.

"He has been causing trouble. He has had trouble."

An earlier statement from 10 Downing Street said the action was taken to enforce compliance with Iraq's obligations under U.N. Security Council resolutions and that the site attacked "is one of those on the inspection list of the U.N. special commission."

"It produced components used in the manufacture of nuclear weapons."

Japan supports attack
Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday Japan supported the latest U.S. missile attack on Iraq and urged Baghdad to comply with the United Nations' Gulf war ceasefire resolutions.

"Japan understands and supports the actions of the United States," Mr. Miyazawa said in a statement in Brunei before boarding a plane for Tokyo.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Tribes settle vendetta in heart of Sanaa

SANAA (AP) — Rival clans of the Hashed tribe of northern Yemen Sunday settled a vendetta right in the heart of the capital Sanaa to an incident involving two killings and the injury of six people. Security officials said that a fire was exchanged between the two sides after Sheikh Ali Ahmad Al-Somuti of the Khayr region inhabited by the Hashed tribe was killed in his car by followers of Sheikh Ali Hameed Gulaidan, of Beni Qais region, from the same tribe. Shooting then broke out, resulting in one more dead and the injury of two pedestrians, including a woman, said the officials. Four of the policemen who rushed to contain the firing were also injured, they said. Members of both sides were arrested and confessed to the police that there had been a vendetta between the two clans and it was being settled. Members of Yemen's tribes often come down from their mountain strongholds to the capital with their arms and daggers. The country already is wracked by assassination attempts and bomb blasts, mostly due to rivalry between political parties. Attempts by the authorities to curb personal arms have failed. Meanwhile a criminal court began considering the case of a group of 20 people indicted by the state prosecutor for damage to public and private property during the four days of food riots in the country last month. More than 600 people were arrested in those riots protesting the spiralling cost of living. It was not known how many more have or will be indicted.

Hamadi accuses Germans of maltreatment

BEIRUT (AP) — Mohammad Ali Hamadi, one of two Lebanese brothers serving prison terms in Germany, accused jail authorities of denying him medical care, according to a letter published here Monday. The accusation came in a brief, handwritten letter published in the leftist Al-Safir newspaper. A copy of the letter was printed to prove authenticity of the letter, dated Jan. 6. Mr. Hamadi accused prison officials of refusing to allow a doctor to examine him and his brother Abbas Hamadi. "Our condition is getting worse as days go by," he wrote. "Jail officials have been ignoring us for quite a long time now." He added that he and his brother were banned from receiving visitors or communicating with the "outside world" and that he managed to sneak the letter out with "sincere friends." The Hamadi family has previously claimed the imprisoned brothers are regularly maltreated and often beaten and tortured by prison authorities and guards. German authorities repeatedly have denied the claims. Mohammad Ali Hamadi was sentenced in May 1987 to life in prison for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner and the killing of a U.S. navy diver. Abbas Hamadi was sentenced to 13 years for the 1987 kidnapping of two Germans, who were freed in Beirut in 1989.

Philippines refrains from evacuation order

MANILA (AP) — The Philippine government said Monday it was monitoring the situation in the Gulf but would not evacuate its nationals from Iraq or Kuwait at this time. The U.S. Navy fired Tomahawk missiles Sunday at the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, in the second armed attack for Iraq's alleged failure to abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions. Officials said there were about 32,000 Filipinos in Kuwait and about 70 in Iraq, including 50 serving with the U.N. observer mission along the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border.

Kuwait airport passengers escorted to shelter

KUWAIT (R) — Security staff took passengers to air raid shelters for 10 minutes at Kuwait airport Monday. It appeared to be a precaution against a possible Iraqi attack that did not materialise, airport sources said. "The passengers, who had been waiting to board three flights, were taken to the shelters at about 12.50 p.m. GMT and released about 10 minutes later, the sources said. A reported Iraqi Scud missile attack on Saudi Arabia, which Western military sources said was destroyed before it reached its target, caused concern in the neighbouring emirate.

Turkish troops kill 5 rebels in southeast

ANKARA (R) — Turkish troops killed five Kurdish separatist rebels, one of them a woman, in a clash on Sunday in the southeastern province of Mardin, a statement from the regional governorate said. The statement gave no other details. Over 5,300 people have been killed in Turkey in the Kurdish Labour Party's nine-year fight for an independent Kurdish state.

Israeli court orders extradition

TEL AVIV (AP) — The supreme court Monday paved the way for the extradition of an American couple sought in the United States in the killing of a California secretary. The high court rejected an appeal by Robert and Rochelle Manning seeking to block the extradition. Justice Minister David Levi will sign the extradition order to the next few days, said ministry spokeswoman Esty Eshed. The Mannings and their teenage daughter, Ilana, burst into tears when the ruling was announced, Israel Radio said. Outside the court, supporters of the couple, most of them from the West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba, shoved and cursed photographers taking pictures of the distraught girl. The United States in December 1990 requested the Mannings' extradition on suspicion they were involved in sending a booby-trapped electrical appliance in the 1980 to a computer firm in Manhattan Beach, California. A secretary of the company, Patricia Wilkerson, was killed when the device exploded as she plugged it in. Police have said the bomb apparently was intended for Ms. Wilkerson's boss, Brenda Crouthamel, with whom the Mannings had a private feud. The Mannings moved to Israel about a decade ago, and lived in Kiryat Arba, a centre of hardline Jewish settlers. They Hebraised their names to Reuven and Rachel. They were arrested in March 1991, following the U.S. extradition request. A court approved the extradition in June 1991, and Mr. Manning said at the time the decision amounted to a "death sentence." The couple appealed to the high court. In the 1970s, Mr. Manning was active in the United States in the Jewish Defense League, a Jewish terror group founded by the late Rabbi Meir Kahane. Kahane's son, Benjamin, was among the couple's supporters in the supreme court on Monday.

Katyushas spark fear among Israelis

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Hundreds of residents of northern Israel searched for gas masks thinking Iraq had launched its first Scud missiles since the 1991 Gulf war.

But the thrush that broke the silence Sunday night were Katyusha rockets fired by guerrillas in Lebanon, military sources said. They caused no damage.

The revival of the Gulf war ritual, when Israelis donned gas masks for fear of Iraqi chemical weapons, underlined the attention paid to the current war of words and missiles.

Developments in the Gulf have been followed closely with Israeli radio stations interrupting broadcasts with updates. But the army said Israelis could go on with life as usual.

"We just think that what the coalition forces are doing is a limited and very focused operation and it is between the coalition forces and Iraq so we are out of it," defence ministry spokesman Oded Ben-Ami said.

He said the United States was keeping leaders of Israel and other Middle East countries informed.

The Katyusha rockets Sunday evening set off a scramble for gas masks, said residents in northern Israel who had escaped attacks during the Gulf war.

The conflict has prompted some Israelis to stop putting off replacing their old masks with newer models. The army began the exchange a few months ago.

Israel Radio reported that Sunday's rockets caused no damage or injuries.

Gharekhan

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Lebanon sent reinforcements to government-controlled territory in the south Monday to prevent Israel's militia allies from building a new crossing, security sources said.

The Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia had wanted a new crossing to supply the eastern part of the zone as the old crossing at Zennarya was blocked with mines last month after Israel expelled the Palestinians through it.

The militia brought in bulldozers to remove barricades on a road from the town of Hasbaya in the zone of Minitis village in government-controlled territory.

But Lebanese troops were reinforced at the last checkpoint in government-controlled territory to block the move, they said.

The Lebanese troops closed their last checkpoint at Minitis and were stopping any traffic moving into the area.

Israelis

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month's anniversary since Israel expelled 415 Palestinians to Lebanon.

Dababesh was shot in the neck while trying to throw a bomb at the soldier next to a mosque in Shati refugee camp in Gaza.

During a funeral march for Dababesh, demonstrators unfurled green-black-red and white Palestinian flags and some held up pictures of the boy, the reports said.

Some mourners threw stones at soldiers who arrived at the scene, the reports said. They reportedly responded with gunfire, wounding another 10 Israelis, leading to the death of Muheisan and Abu Hassira.

Protests also erupted in Rafah in the south of the Gaza Strip where a Palestinian teenager suffered a serious gunshot wound in the chest and was taken to Tel Hashomer hospital near Tel Aviv, reports said.

Prince Hassan meets German leaders

(Continued from page 1)

Prince Hassan highlighted Jordan's keenness to preserve human rights through its role in the Arab Thought Forum.

Jordan's perception of the issue of human rights is wider than that of the United Nations, which focuses on the issue in a narrow manner without giving due attention to the political and social factors, he said.

He called on the envoys to work on correcting the image of Arabs and Muslims abroad.

The Crown Prince also had a meeting with a group of Jordanian physicians and students living in Bonn. Discussions at the meeting focused on the role of the educated Jordanian youth in

building the future of the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan proposed the establishment of a data link between expatriate Jordanians and their homeland to benefit from their experience in the national development process.

On Sunday, Prince Hassan met with Hans Dietrich Genscher, former foreign minister and leading political figure.

The Crown Prince arrived in Bonn Sunday following visits to the U.S. and the United Kingdom.

Prince Hassan described the two visits as very fruitful and that they were part of preparations for holding a human rights summit in Vienna in June.

Arabs question 'double standard'

(Continued from page 1)

of double standard is not worthy of a superpower, no matter how much of a tyrant Saddam Hussein is," said the English-language Gulf News in Dubai.

Criticism of the United States was not voiced by all Arabs, however.

The two sides of Arab opinion were represented by an editorial in another Dubai daily, the Kaleej Times.

"Saddam Hussein was asking for it," said the Kaleej Times. The independent Algerian newspaper Le Journal said President Bush, "who leaves office Wednesday, will enter history and man's memory as a vindictive and petty man."

Libya, which stayed on the sidelines during the Gulf war two years ago, said the latest attacks "constitute an escalation of tension in the area and the return of the old colonialism in a new form."

In Istanbul, Turkey's Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin urged Iraq to comply with United Nations resolutions and asked the both allies and the Baghdad government to avoid increasing tensions in the Gulf.

"Putting aside the questions whether Iraq is right or wrong, it must accept all U.N. resolutions and also stop flying in northern and southern Iraq," Mr. Cetin told a meeting of the Turkish-American Business Council.

"The allies and the Baghdad government must show restraint to prevent the tensions from getting out of hand."

Egyptians interviewed by Reuters said they felt the air strike was not justified in the way the U.S.-led operation to drive Iraqi troops out of Kuwait had been in 1991.

"This is becoming an American cowboy film," said Mohammad Ebari, a messenger.

"America is behaving as if it is the policeman of the area. It does what it likes without any consideration or restriction. These attacks are not justified."

"At the beginning, it was clear why the allies attacked Iraq — because it invaded Kuwait," said Salah Izzat, an Egyptian bank clerk.

"But now there are no real reasons. America wants to destroy Iraq. It is dictating its own law on the whole world."

In Tunis, a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) spokesman condemned the latest attack on Iraq.

"The PLO condemns these repeated acts of aggression ... at a

time the U.S. administration prevents the implementation of international resolutions on Israel which violates all the U.N. and Security Council resolutions and all the international conventions," the Palestinian agency Wafa quoted the spokesman saying.

A Foreign Ministry statement in Tunis said Tunisia was "deeply concerned about renewed tension and violence in the Gulf area and expresses its strong regret for their resulting in civilian casualties among the sons of our brother Arab people."

Tunisia felt U.N. resolutions "should be implemented with the same standard whatever parties were involved," the statement said, citing Israel's rejection of the Security Council resolution demanding the return of expelled Palestinians.

It reaffirmed Tunisia's respect for the sovereignty of Kuwait and its right to live in security and peace but added that the same principle applied to Iraq.

Clinton says

(Continued from page 1)

we will make the economic security of our own nation a primary goal of our foreign policy," he said.

"Here in America, we cannot sustain an active engagement abroad without a sound economy at home. And yet ...

we cannot prosper at home unless we are engaged abroad."

Second, U.S. foreign policy will be based on a restructuring of the military "to meet new and continuing threats to our security interests and the international peace."

"We will continue to prudently reduce defence spending, but potential aggressors should be clear about American resolve," he said.

"We do not relish the prospect of military force, but when necessary we will not shrink from using it when all appropriate diplomatic measures have been exhausted."

Mr. Clinton said the third guiding principle was "rooted in the democratic principles and institutions which unite our own country and of course (to which) so many now around the world aspire."

"The spread of democratic values has given the hope of freedom to millions all across the world, who have endured decades of oppression," he said.

Zarqa deputies present their demands

(Continued from page 1)

would reactivate a special ministerial committee set up under the chairmanship of the minister of transport to handle the problem of state-owned land in the Zarqa region.

Squatters have built homes on state-owned land and efforts for settling the outstanding issue have failed to produce any result.

The delegation also demanded that the government regard Ruseifa as a separate district in

view of the growing number of people and to create a semi-district in Birien and another in its western side. The prime minister said he would study the request.

Sharif Zeid said all factories located in Zarqa Governorate, especially the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, should contribute to the development of municipalities in the region and help them to solve environmental problems.

JORDAN TELEVISION

TEL: 731111

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ... Michael Vallant
18:30 ... La Famille Ramdan
19:00 ... News in Fitch
19:15 ... Les images de Chateaur
19:30 ... News in Hebrew
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:30 ... Perfect Strangers
21:10 ... The Downside Dynasty
21:30 ... News in English
22:30 ... Prime Suspect

PRAYER TIMES

05:10 ... Fair
10:37 ... (Sunrise) Doha
11:46 ... Dhuhur
14:37 ... 'Asr
17:01 ... Maghrib
18:22 ... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810/40
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637/85
St. Joseph Church Tel. 6245/90
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637/40
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrestrial Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 6305/1, Tel. 6295/3

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Assiout International Church Tel. 683326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932

Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675491

Church of the Redeemer Tel. 638526

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

It will be clear and cold and winds will be southerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and sea calm.

Mtr./Max. temp.

Amman ... 7/17

Aqaba ... -5/12

Jordan Valley ... 6/15

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AMMAN:

Dr. Ahmad Yousef ... 786384

Dr. Mohammad Al-Azab ... 752971

Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad ... 846070

Fire pharmacy ... 661912

Ferdous pharmacy ... 778336

Al Asma pharmacy ... 637055

Nairoukh pharmacy ... 623672

Al Salem pharmacy ... 636730

Yasouh pharmacy ... 644945

Shmeisani pharmacy ... 637660

Nairoukh pharmacy ... 623672

Najih pharmacy ... 847632

Complaints ... 897467

Amman Municipality ... 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) ... 621

Emergency Calls ... 010230

Central Amman Telephone ... 623101

Repairs ... 623101

Abdullah Telephone Repairs ... 661101

Jordan Television ... 770111

Radio Jordan ... 774111

Water Authority ... 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615

Electric Power Company ... 636381

RJ Flight Information ... 08-53200

Queen Alia Int. Airport ... 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Fusouh Medical Centre ... 813813/2

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn ... 642816

Akileh Maternity, J. Amn ... 642412

Jabal Amman Maternity ... 642362

Melhus, J. Amman ... 636140

Palestine, Shmeisani ... 664171/4

Shmeisani Hospital ... 543845

University Hospital ... 667227/9

Al-Muashar Hospital ... 666127/7

The Islamic, Abdell ... 664144/6



Jordan's high birthrate poses problems for the future (file photo)

Birth rate threatens Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Population growth at its current rate in Jordan "may finally lead to the destruction of the Jordanian civilisation and even to its disappearance," according to the German Friedrich-Naumann Foundation (GNF), who delivered the opening speech at Monday's seminar on "Population Growth and the Environment."

"If we compared the number of inhabitants in Jordan, which amount to four million at present, to the available resources and agricultural lands, we can deduce the bulk of the problem facing the country," Mr. Radel said.

Mr. Radel warned of the serious consequences challenging the world if population growth continues at the same rate: "There will be more poverty, more famines, more natural catastrophes, more social disturbances and more wars," he said. "What is likely to happen in the near future is a total or partial destruction of the world as a result of an atomic war between the poor, over-populated countries in the south and the relatively advanced peoples in the north," Mr. Radel said.

According to statistics of a United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) study, the number of inhabitants in the world will reach 14 billion by the year 2050.

The study, conducted by Lina

Obeidat of the UNFPA, shows that the rate of fertility in developing countries will increase from 37 to 45 per cent in the year 2000; and to 61 per cent in the year 2025. Statistics for the year 1990 also show that around one billion people are living in slums, lacking even basic health services, where the rate of unemployment is high; inhabitants suffer from malnutrition and permanent diseases in addition to crime and environmental pollution which are constant features of such regions.

The study points to the serious implications of over-population, especially in relation to water resources and their uses. Ms. Obeidat indicates that while developing countries currently suffer from water shortages, they will also face major problems hindering their progress in all fields.

As for Jordan, the study says it is considered one of the poorest countries in terms of water resources: the individual's annual water consumption does not exceed 165 cubic metres compared to 285 cubic metres in Israel.

Dr. Ali As'ad, a representative of the Ministry of Health who participated in the seminar, stressed in his working paper upon the disastrous consequences and related illnesses that result from environmental pollution.

Dr. Fawwah Toukan, a Beirut University professor and the advisor to the Palestinian Delegation to the multilateral peace

talks on environment, said the Palestinian strategy on environment must depend upon the concentration on international and regional dimensions as well as on the relation of the environment to stability and security.

"In the occupied territories, population growth is directly related to immigration and to the repressive practices of the Israeli authorities, which result in the confiscation of Palestinian territories and the loss of control over the water resources," she said.

Dr. Toukan said a more active role by international organisations directly involved in environmental issues is required; and there must be a demand for their presence in the occupied territories. She stressed that there must be adequate help to Palestinians in establishing institutions and other facilities that are concerned with environmental matters.

The seminar, held at the Amra Hotel, was jointly sponsored by the Jordan Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution (JSCEP) and the GNF.

JBA gears up for elections

By Odeh Odeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As the date for elections of the Jordanian Bar Association (JBA) approaches, more lawyers have nominated themselves as candidates for president or board member.

Jawad Younes, Fahmi Abu Hweij, Omar Damra, Asaad Kamal Al Saadi, Isa Ismail Mahadin, Dr. Kamal Naser and Khalaf Masaadeb have announced their candidacy for president.

According to association sources, there are no women candidates today, but unconfirmed reports say Zahrah Sharabati and Nivin Sbaifi Nabil might declare their candidacy shortly.

Altogether 2,150 lawyers are eligible to vote in the election which is due in March.

President Bar Association president Mr. Walid Abdul Hadi will not be running again; he has already served as president for two successive terms, association sources said.

They said that a total of 16 lawyers from Jordan and the occupied West Bank have said they will run for the two-year term of board member.

According to association sources, heated rivalry is expected between the Democratic Bloc, the Islamists and the Professional Bloc.

More than 1000 lawyers are demanding drastic changes in the association structure and orientation, with a view to giving more attention to the professional rather than the political trends the sources said.

At least 257 West Bank lawyers are involved in the coming election and have already elected Mursi Hajjir from Jerusalem to serve on the 10 member board.

JD 2.8m to finance electrification projects

IRBID (J.T.) — The Irbid District Electricity Company (IDEC) has allocated JD 2.8 million to finance its expansion projects and develop existing power networks during 1993.

Company Director General, Abdul Raouf Al Sheikh, told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the plans entail supplying electric power to new industrial, agricultural, educational and other developmental sites such as water and irrigation projects and the villages which are included in the new plans for electrification this year.

Mr. Sheikh said by the end of last year the company had succeeded in supplying electricity to 99 per cent of the areas under its concession in the Irbid governorate.

The area under IDEC concession includes the Irbid and Mafrqa governorates with their towns and settlements such as Al Kharijeh, Al Masarrah, Haditha, Zeinneh and Rahamat — all areas which have been supplied with electricity so far.

Mr. Sheikh said plans are under way to supply power to villages and settlements in the Ajloun, Jerash and Sabeih areas, as well as the King Talal Dam

environs. He said work is also under way to set up a 33 kilovolt, 35 kilometre network and a transformer station at Safawi, and work was completed on a station at Al Hassan Industrial City near Irbid.

Referring to the difficulties facing the company, Mr. Sheikh said the company had to deal with damages caused to the electric power network in its area last winter and to cope with the increasing number of new subscribers. Last year, the company erected 2,150 high voltage pylons and laid 29 kilometres of overhead and underground cables to serve new subscribers who numbered 5,046, Mr. Sheikh said.

Mr. Sheikh said the company currently owns 1,700 kilometres of cable network which is being fed with 33 kilovolts of power. He said the company has recruited skilled staff and gathered sufficient experience to handle most of the damages that could affect the network during the present winter season. He said the company offers services to 125,000 subscribers and its dues are mostly collected on time, enabling the company to pursue its plans on schedule.

Agriculture Committee hears out poultry farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — Poultry farm owners Monday called on the government to ban the imports of poultry production from abroad in order to reduce marketing problems facing them in the local market.

In a meeting with the Agriculture Committee of the Lower House of Parliament, owners of poultry farms and fodder processing plants in Jordan stressed the need to swiftly address their problems, underlining the need to reduce the prices of animal feed and veterinary medicines.

They also urged the government to increase the number of slaughter houses and refrigerated stores to absorb the market surplus of poultry production.

The poultry farmers also called for the creation of a union or federation for poultry farm owners,

and for examining and controlling the quality of veterinary vaccinations and medicines as well as fodder before supplying poultry farmers with them.

Chairman of the Agriculture Committee Mohammad Al Alawneh said the committee's meeting with the owners of poultry farms and fodder processing plants followed a tour by the committee members of various agricultural sectors around the Kingdom.

Later in the day, the committee had a meeting with farmers from the Al Shafa area who demanded the establishment of a sugar processing plant.

They also called for establishing a general union for Jordanian farmers and the cancellation of interest rates on agricultural loans.

Jordanians speak out against attack on Iraq

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanians Monday reacted with vehemence to the latest allied attacks against Iraq and denounced what they saw as Arab connivance with the United States in not only trying to eliminate all possibilities of Iraq re-emerging as a strong military power in the region but also in helping President George Bush to strike at Iraq as a memento of a personal feud against President Saddam Hussein.

Many Jordanians who do not necessarily agree with the policies of the Saddam government in Baghdad also appeared to have been influenced into adopting a strong anti-Western position in the wake of the massive missile attack on Baghdad Sunday night and the air raids in the north and south that followed Monday.

The main consideration among middle-of-the-road Jordanians was what one of them described as the "irrefutable evidence" of the Western double-standards in dealing with the Middle East.

"Where is the determination and anxiety of the U.S. and its cronies to enforce the U.N. resolutions on the Palestinian problem?" asked Mahmoud Taha, a jeweller. "Let us forget for a moment (Security Council resolutions) 242 and 338 and look at 799. What is being done about it?"

Resolution 799 condemns Israel's Dec. 17 expulsion of over 400 Palestinians to south Lebanon and demands that the Jewish state allow their immediate return home to the occupied territories. Israel has ruled out compliance with the resolution.

"To throw massive military power at Iraq in the name of the U.N. while keeping a blind eye towards Israel's defiance of U.N. decisions is nothing but double-standards and hypocrisy," he said.

"I am not a fan of Saddam," said Mohammad Murzi, a ready-made garments merchant in downtown Amman. "Saddam made a lot of mistakes and made us all look like stupid fools with the way he handled the Gulf crisis. I don't know what he (Saddam) wants this time. Anyway he should not have provoked the Americans," he said.

"But it is not acceptable that the Americans and Europeans come to the region with a free hand and hit at Iraq with impunity," he said. "After all, Iraq is an Arab country and the Iraqi people are our brothers and sisters."

Tawfiq Kweik, a bank clerk, said he had "no doubt whatsoever that what we are seeing today is the final scene in the personal feud between Bush and Saddam."

Mr. Kweik concedes that the Iraqi leadership could have behaved in a manner unacceptable to the West's interpretation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, but he argued that "it was the pretext that Bush was waiting for to hit Iraq as a departing souvenir to Saddam."

"What amazes me," he said, "is how the Gulf Arab leaders are lending their resources and territory as staging grounds for attacks against Iraq when the possibility remains open that an end to the crisis could be found with (President-elect Bill) Clinton in office."

Basim Moriad, a university student, believes that Iraq should collect all its forces and "retake Kuwait and to hell with the consequences."

"I know it will not be easy, and the price Iraq has to pay will be very heavy," said the bearded student of Islamic law. "But if there is to be a new conflict let



Pro-Iraqi sympathies among Jordanians, who overwhelmingly backed Saddam Hussein during the Gulf crisis, seem to have been boosted by the recent U.S. attacks on Iraq (file photo)

the Iraqis make sure that the Kuwaiti regime is not spared either."

"Let Saddam go down if that is indeed the price to pay," he said. "Then he can claim to be the hero of the Arab World since he would have changed the picture of the Arab World by a new invasion of Kuwait."

Qasem Bashar, a taxi driver, said he was heartened by Iraq's sole missile attack against Dharan, Saudi Arabia, after Monday's air raids. Some reports said the missile was intercepted and destroyed before hitting the ground. Other reports said there was no such attack at all.

"It is a message to everyone," said Mr. Bashar. "Saddam is saying that he still has the firepower to hit the Saudis as well as others, including Israel, and could unleash it if he wants it."

Musa Abu Bilal, a Palestinian schoolteacher who was forced out of post-occupation Kuwait in 1991, lamented that "Arabs do not seem to understand what Iraq is trying to do."

"I listened to every word Saddam said (in a nationwide speech marking the second anniversary of the start of the Gulf war) Sunday," said Mr. Abu Bilal. "The man made perfect sense in his review of the status of the Arab World today and the way

some of the Arab leaders were serving Western interests at Arab expense."

In his lengthy speech Sunday, President Saddam lashed out at the ruling Al Sabah family in Kuwait and other unnamed Arab regimes for "serving their masters' interests" and caring little for the "interest of their own people."

He called on the Arab masses to rally behind Iraq and seek "justice" for themselves.

"But Arab leaders appear to be deaf," said Mr. Abu Bilal. "Either they do not understand what Iraq is trying to say or they don't want to understand since such understanding is not compatible with the interests of their regimes."

Several Jordanians argued that the Iraqi leadership should have averted any crisis with the U.S. or the U.N.

"The blow that was delivered to Iraq in the Gulf war was devastating and killed all our hopes that the Iraqis could have posed a serious threat to Israel that could balance the regional military balance," said Jamal Al Turk, a grocer.

"Saddam should have kept a low profile and tried to salvage whatever he could of his military power without risking a new confrontation," he said.

Locusts under control, no invasion likely

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan joined five Arab countries in a one-day emergency meeting in Cairo to discuss measures of stemming locust invasions in the region.

Dr. Hani Haddadin, of the Ministry of Agriculture, who represented Jordan at the meeting organised in the past week by the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), told the Jordan Times the locust situation is under control and Jordan was in no immediate danger of any locust invasion. The locusts are located south of Jordan and extend south to Jazan, along the coast of the Red Sea.

Dr. Haddadin said, Saudi Arabian authorities, who are well-equipped and experienced in combating the pest, have been involved in fighting off 21 swarms of locusts reported to have invaded the western coasts of the Saudi kingdom, Dr. Haddadin said. He said Jordan is well protected from the desert locusts by the cold weather currently affecting the country, and by the experienced handling of the situation on the part of the Saudi authorities.

Swarms of locusts were also reported to have invaded part of northern Yemen, but are now under control there also, Dr. Haddadin said.

He said there are unconfirmed

reports of swarms of locusts invading southern Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia, but information about fighting the pest in those areas was unavailable because of the security situation in Africa at present.

Jordan, Syria, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Eritrea discussed the ongoing measures to combat the pest and recommended continued and close coordination in order to benefit from the ex-

change of data and information, Dr. Haddadin said.

Although Jordan is in no danger at present, the Kingdom is taking precautionary measures to deal with the situation, Dr. Haddadin said. He said the Armed Forces, the Royal Jordanian Air Force, the Public Security Department, and the Border Police have joined forces in the effort to stem a locust invasion this spring.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF



Prince Abdullah visits General Headquarters

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein visited Monday the General Headquarters of the Jordanian Armed Forces where he had a meeting with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Field Marshal Fathi Abu Taleb. Prince Abdullah also visited the Public Security Department (PSD) and met with its Director Major-General Fadel Ali Faheid. Prince Abdullah was briefed on the role of the PSD in serving citizens and maintaining national security.

Health committee to visit hospitals

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Committee at the Lower House of Parliament held a meeting Monday under the chairmanship of Deputy Saad Haddadin. The committee plans to visit various hospitals and health centres in the Kingdom, Mr. Haddadin said. He said the committee will inform Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh of its plans.

Jordan, Morocco to follow-up on trade prospects

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian-Moroccan follow-up committee entrusted with overcoming obstacles to trade exchanges between the two countries will meet in Amman Tuesday. The committee will discuss means of implementing a trade and tourism agreement signed by Jordan and Morocco last year. Members of the Moroccan side in the committee will hold talks with officials from the public and private sectors on ways of promoting trade exchange between the two countries. The committee meetings will be co-chaired by Secretary General of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Marwan Awad and Secretary General of the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism Rashad Ben Hilal.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Latin American Countries in France" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Modernist Still Life Photographed" at the

American Centre.

FILMS

- ★ German film entitled "Der Schimmelreiter" at the Goethe Institute — 8 p.m.
- ★ German film entitled "Berlin Chamissplatz" at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation — 6:30 p.m.

وزارة الاشغال العامة والاسكان
دائرة العطاءات الحكومية
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING
GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE
Ministry of Public Works & Housing
Government Tenders Directorate
Announcement Invitation To Tender No. (5/93) Fuahis
Waste Water Treatment Plant

Local contractors and experienced contractors from member states of the European Community are invited to participate in this tender and are requested to contact the Government Tenders Directorate, Ministry of Public Works & Housing Amman, Jordan to receive tender documents starting from 19th of Jan. 1993 in accordance with the following terms:

1. Scope of work:

- The construction of a sewage treatment facilities, consisting of the following major items:
- a- Waste water treatment plant for Fuahis and Mahas.
- b- Two lifting stations.
- c- Main transmission pipes and syphons.

2. Classification and field of local contractors:

Sewage Treatment Plant First Class separately or (water and sewage + electro-mechanical) First or second class.

3. The Project is financed partially from European Investment Bank.

- 4. Last date for documents purchase is 27.2.1993.
- 5. Tenders price JD 300.00 per set, non-refundable.
- 6. Offers shall be submitted to the Government Tenders Directorate before 13:30 local time on Tuesday 9.3.1993.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee
Government Tenders Directorate
Eng. Basheer Al-Jaghbeer

وزارة الاشغال العامة والاسكان
دائرة العطاءات الحكومية
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & HOUSING
GOVERNMENT TENDERS DIRECTORATE

Ministry of Public Works & Housing Government Tenders Directorate General Tenders Announcement Invitation To Tender No. (2/93)

International firms, specialised in telecommunication, who are interested in participating in this tender are requested to contact the Government Tenders Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works & Housing Amman, Jordan to receive tender documents starting from 19/1/1993 and in accordance with the following terms:

1. Scope of work:

This project implies the provision and installation of:

- One main digital switch in Mafrqa city with capacity of (5304).
- (14) small switching nodes.
- New combined National and International Switching Centre (NISC) in Amman with capacity of (300) PCM systems.
- Digital transmission equipment.

2. The project is partially financed by the Islamic Development Bank.

3. Each tender price JD(1000) non-refundable.

4. Last date for purchase of tender documents is March 1, 1993.

5. Site visit on 8th of March 1993. Tenderers, who wish to participate in this visit shall apply not later, than one week from the said date.

6. Offers shall be submitted to the Government Tenders Directorate before 13:30 local time on Tuesday 20th of April 1993.

Chairman, Central Tenders Committee

Government Tenders Directorate

Eng. Basheer Al-Jaghbeer

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.
Established 1975
مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

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Jordan Press Foundation,
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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the
Jordan Times advertising department.

Lessons not only learnt but also to be remembered

IN EXPRESSING deep anger over the "sorrowful developments" in the Gulf between Iraq and the Western allies, His Majesty King Hussein was echoing the feelings of millions of Arabs who can accept no justification for the continued U.S. and allied attacks on Iraq.

These are moments of sorrow and anger, the King said. Indeed they are.

We direct a great deal of this anger at the United States and its coalition partners which seem to have ignored all calls of reason to save this conflict-prone area yet another bloody, definitely unnecessary, episode.

Renewed military confrontation between Iraq and the Western allies will serve the interest of none, except probably, the personal ambitions and grudges of outgoing U.S. President George Bush, who has crossed the boundaries of common sense, reason and international legality.

The Arabs are mistaken if they believe the horrible repercussions of a new war in the Gulf will not reverberate beyond Iraq to shake the stability of the whole region. Their silence is deafening. Their lack of action is yet another proof of the shaky foundation upon which the whole Arab system is precariously balanced.

Hence is the soundness of His Majesty's call on the Arabs to address this unfortunate situation as one nation and end the fragmentation and destruction of the Arab World. The Arabs have suffered enough for their failure to resolve the crisis when it first erupted in August 1990. They will reap a more bitter harvest if they do not bury the differences of the past and act collectively to contain the tension and peacefully settle the crisis.

The double standards of the Western-dominated United Nations in addressing the conflicts of the area sets out in sharp relief that the U.S. and its allies are launching their missiles on Baghdad to promote their own interests, not international legitimacy.

United Nations resolutions and international law carry little weight with the United States if they do not promote its interests. Images of more than 400 Palestinians suffering in a makeshift camp in southern Lebanon remove the humane mask behind which Washington, London and Paris try to hide their attacks on Iraq. Thousands of deaths in Bosnia-Herzegovina only further expose the hypocritical nature of Mr. Bush's new world order.

Driven by personal vendetta and unchecked by a world that has shed away from effectively protesting his action, Mr. Bush seems determined to continue his war against Iraq until his last minute in power.

The world is fortunate therefore that a changing of the guard will bring a new American president to the White House. We can only hope that President-elect Bill Clinton will have a totally new approach to the conflict in the Gulf — an approach guided by sound reasoning, unmarred by personal grudges and aimed at defusing a crisis that has the potential of driving a whole region into the abyss of total chaos.

In the meantime, the Arabs should try and take their fate into their own hands, put their house in order and find a peaceful solution to a conflict in which they could be the only losers.

The events of 1992 August are not too far to remember; the lessons are too important to be ignored.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE DOWNING of one Iraqi plane in the north and of another one in the south can by no means change the situation and will not compensate Mr. Bush for his downfall this week, said Al Rai Arabic daily Monday. The destruction of residential areas in Baghdad, Basra and Mosul is no victory or something that can honour any nation or leader, said the daily in its comments on the resumption of U.S. air raids on Iraqi cities. The Arabs do hope that President-elect Bill Clinton is now aware of the fact that destruction of other countries can by no means be beneficial to his country or contribute towards enhancing peace and justice in the world, said the daily. Indeed, Mr. Bush's acts of aggression in his last days in office can by no means be regarded as a heroic feat worthy of respect, the paper continued. It said that Mr. Bush's lies and those of his British and French allies, concerning the situation in Iraq, can by no means be beneficial to the Western world because arrogance and crimes can never destroy the will of nations. The paper said that by launching raids on Iraq in his last days, Mr. Bush is trying to find solace for his ignominious ouster from the White House. Mr. Bush and his country consider the raids as military victories, but they are, in fact, political defeats for the Western world at large, the paper said. These air raids, it concluded, can never brighten the image of the ugly president and his allies in the world.

Comparing Mr. Bush to the Roman Emperor Nero, Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily said that the outgoing president seems to be determined not to leave the White House without displaying all his black hatred against humanity through committing barbaric crimes against the Iraqi people. The paper said that Mr. Bush seems to be afflicted with the Nazi hysteria instigating him to launch aggression, killing innocent people and destroying residential areas. It said that the bloodbath Mr. Bush is trying to create in Iraq is bound to deepen the hatred of the Arab masses for the Americans and their allies who are intent on carrying out destruction and killing of people. The hysterical behaviour of Mr. Bush and his allies, and the air raids on Iraqi cities, constitute a crime against humanity in general and the Arab Nation in particular. The paper said that the U.S. rockets which continue to fall on Baghdad and other towns are burning what the Western world calls the international legitimacy and destroying the so called new world order which Mr. Bush had been bragging about. The paper said that Mr. Bush is acting like Nero did when he burnt Rome and like Hitler who left behind him the worst pictures of barbarism printed deep in the world's history.

Commentators around world echo U.S. hopes, fears about Clinton

By Anita Snow
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — On the eve of President-elect Clinton's inauguration, political commentators around the globe are echoing U.S. hopes and fears about the man who will lead the world's last remaining superpower.

In places as diverse as Colombia, Russia and Saudi Arabia, they fear Mr. Clinton's relative inexperience in the foreign arena and the challenges that will face him from abroad — famine and strife in Somalia; war in former Yugoslavia; Iraq's defiance of the West; wobbly democracies in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Their hopes spring from the demise of a global East-West conflict that dictated U.S. foreign policy for a generation; the end of the reign of the Republican Party that came to be associated with that conflict; and Mr. Clinton's youthfulness, which reminds many of them of President John F. Kennedy.

L'Express, a leading French newsweekly, spoke of the excitement, the "fevered mood" swirling around Washington with the approach of Wednesday's inauguration, when Mr. Clinton, 46, will be sworn in as the nation's first Democratic president in 12 years.

French commentators have gushed over Mr. Clinton since he defeated incumbent Republican President Bush in the November election. At that time, Le Point, a leading news weekly, described Mr. Clinton as having "the vitality of a young buffalo, and the well-articulated rhetoric of a George Town and Oxford overachiever" and having "a conciliatory and centrist" tone.

Parallels between Mr. Clinton and Mr. Kennedy were drawn in

Excerpts from commentators around the world on the eve of President-elect Clinton's inauguration:

"In sending American planes to bomb positions of Iraq's air-defence batteries and sending a marines battalion to Kuwait, George Bush is leaving for Bill Clinton a legacy he is unable to reject. ... Clinton will find it too easy to leave Kuwait even if he strongly wants this, as it will be too easy for him to extricate himself from the situation in Somalia. One U.S. marine has already died there, another one was wounded, but Bush is teaching his young successor a lesson of political wisdom: in order to divert U.S. public attention from the death of an American, it is necessary to deal a victorious blow in another part of the world." — *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, Moscow.

"The swearing of that oath will turn Mr. Clinton from a local fixer to the most powerful man in the world. He will become the ultimate insider, appraised each day by other insiders (congressmen, the television networks, the works) on his ability to play the power game. The logical conclusion is that the United States needs a leader able to pose as an ordinary middle American, but who is really a ruthless, sophisticated Washington player. In Mr. Clinton, they have probably got him. Not the fresh-faced symbol of a return to lost innocence who will be paraded before the world next week but a chilly, hardened ruler. Not so much Hope, Arkansas, as experience, D.C." — *The Independent* of London.

"With days left before Bill Clinton becomes president, the route that North America's foreign policy will take continues to be unknown. The apparent fragility of Clinton as leader of the world's superpower could give us many surprises. ... The Democrats have spent so many years out of the White House, and the results of the last Democrat in office, Jimmy Carter, were so poor that their return to power has stirred understandable fears. The geopolitical world and the role of the United States in it has changed significantly. How much maturity have the Democrats gained in this arena after spending 12 years on the street, looking in through the window at the Republican banquet?" — *Tempo*, Bogota, Colombia.

"The rupture that the move to power of a Democrat after 12 years of Republicans represents is not the only thing that explains the atmosphere of excitement. ... The retreat of the Bush-Baker duo to the Clinton-Christopher couple could even incite certain people to scepticism. So where is the fevered mood coming from?"

"These moments often coincide with post-war periods: civil, world or cold... the U.S. needs what one observer called 'the values of Frank Capra films: The will to be restrained in community, personal and private interests; and the desire to do good simply because that's the thing to do.' (Clinton) does not want to miss his American moment." — *L'Express*, Paris.

an opinion piece Wednesday in The Independent of London. It portrays Mr. Clinton as a tough, clever and sophisticated Washington insider with a regular guy's persona — a combination it maintains America needs in a leader.

"The logical conclusion is that the United States needs a leader able to pose as an ordinary middle American, but who is really a ruthless, sophisticated Washington player," it says. "In Mr. Clinton, they have probably got him. Not the fresh-faced symbol of a return to lost innocence who will be paraded before the world next week but a chilly, hardened ruler. Not so much Hope, Arkansas, as experience, D.C."

But with the hope is the fear — fear that Mr. Clinton won't be tough enough on leaders like Iraq's Saddam Hussein or countries like Yugoslavia. Or that he won't be wise or experienced enough to deal with unexpected surprises in a rapidly changing world.

"Saddam is not going to leave the White House when (president) Bush does," a columnist noted in the Saudi-financed daily Al Hayat.

"Clinton will find it not easy to leave Kuwait even if he strongly wants this, as it will be too easy for him to extricate himself from the situation in Somalia," an article in the Moscow daily Komsomolskaya Pravda pointed out Friday.

"With days left before Bill Clinton becomes president, the route that North America's foreign policy will take continues to be unknown," the daily newspaper El Tiempo of Bogota, Colombia, said this week.

"The geopolitical world and the role of the United States in it has changed significantly. How much maturity have the Democrats gained in this arena after spending 12 years on the street, looking in through the window at the Republican banquet?"

Rami Khouri's regular Tuesday column will appear this week on Thursday.

Bombings isolate Kuwait from Arabs

By Robert Fisk

Behind the palace walls, among the banks, you can see the launchers of the Patriot missiles. The Americans are protecting their most favoured emir, and his immensely wealthy people.

"There is no reason for fear," Prince Saud Al Sabah, the Kuwaiti Information Minister, proclaimed on Jan. 14. And yet there was that tell-tale printed sheet pushed under my hotel door after breakfast. "Dear Guest," it announced, "the evacuation alarm will be tested to day, Jan. 14, at 12 noon. Please do not be alarmed it is only a necessary exercise." That last, unhappy conjunction of two words told the whole story.

Not that anyone here still believes that Saddam Hussein would reinstate. This time last year Kuwaiti television was broadcasting programmes on civil defence. These past two days, the Kuwaitis have been sufficed with costume dramas and retransmissions of CNN news broadcasts from Baghdad. Yesterday's Arab Times gave almost as much space to a partial transcript of the alleged Prince Charles-Camilla Parker Bowles tape as it did to the text of Martin Fitzwater's White House announcement of the bombing of Iraq. But you can't shake off that little edge of uncertainty.

Take Major Saleh Adoub, in the old police station near the Al Salam supermarket. He wanted to help arrange our forthcoming trip to the Iraqi border, to make sure the Kuwaiti checkpoints did not prevent us from reaching the frontier at Abdali. "But don't stray off the main road, don't go into the desert," he warned with a big, concerned smile. "Saddam is crazy and the Iraqis are still around you there. If you stray over the border, you may end up in Baghdad for a few years."

There was nothing wrong with the advice. It was the memory that played tricks. Two years and six weeks ago, I had passed this very police station on the day of Kuwait's liberation, when men like Major Saleh were anticipating the imminent overthrow of Saddam. Yet there we all were yesterday evening, watching the same American news commentators on the same satellite television shows, making the very same predictions about Saddam Hussein that they had made two years ago. Then there had been venom for Saddam, expressed by American and Kuwaiti alike. But yesterday the Kuwaiti hatred had softened a little.

"I don't mind the bombing if it was necessary," the Kuwaiti woman confided as she sent off my fax to London on Kuwait's over-burdened telephone system. "But couldn't the Americans have given one more warning?"

Was it really necessary to do all that bombing with all those planes again? Why was this? Why did it have to happen? It was a worthwhile question, one that even Prince Saud Al Sabah found himself unable to address satisfactorily.

In the atrium of the Information Ministry, he had repeated America's contention that the raids were "limited." Credence could no longer be placed in Iraq's promises. Saddam must obey U.N. Security Council resolutions. "I believe there is worldwide acceptance of what the coalition forces have done."

But if it was worldwide, it was certainly not Arab-wide. The Saudis and Kuwaitis may have expressed their satisfaction at this bit of extra Saddam-buffing but the Egyptians did not support it — President Hosni Mubarak regretted the use of force — and the Arab League complained about it along with Jordan, which objected to the raids. Syria remained gloweringly silent. So did Algeria.

Indeed, one got the impression that the Kuwaitis were finally having to face up to a kind of isolation. Understanding as never before how much they must now rely upon American protection they are beginning to realise they have crossed a divide. All the talk of Arab brotherhood and unity went out the window on

Aug. 2, 1990, but now the gradual loss of this familiar, neighbourly rhetoric — bestowed upon Saddam Hussein on Sept. 23, 1989 by none other than the emir of Kuwait himself — has left a gulf, filled instead by U.S. promises.

The Kuwaitis are beginning to understand Saddam: that his crisis-creation is directed at the fellow Arabs rather than the West. They have noticed how mildly their government has chosen to condemn Israel's refusal to adhere to the U.N. Security Council resolution on returning the 413 Palestinian deportees to their homes. Asked about it, Prince Saud refused even to discuss the matter.

Yet, on Jan. 14, a middle-aged Kuwaiti, dressed in gold-fringed robes, could be seen watching a CNN newscast of the Iraqi air raids in the lobby of the Kuwaiti International Hotel, quietly cursing. There on the television were the usual western claims of "punishing" Saddam, of "spanking" him — the old language of colonialism — and even the same grim references to "collateral damage" that should have died with the Gulf war. But of course Kuwaitis are waking up to the realisation that the Gulf war has not ended.

So who was the middle-aged man cursing? Up on the border,

the Iraqis do not inspire as much fear as the citizens of Kuwait might credit them with. They have defeated and unriated on the border posts in advance of tonight's deadline to leave the Kuwaiti side of the demilitarised zone.

And by today the West must take action to save the Muslims of Bosnia, otherwise the delegates to the Islamic Conference will take steps to send their own military assistance to the Muslims of the Balkans. How we in the West had forgotten that even more pregnant deadline, set down in Jeddah last year.

The European Community was sending a six-day ultimatum to the Bosnian Serbs, but the horrors of the Balkans long ago exhausted Arab patience. The massacres, tortures, rapes of Bosnia have far outdone the inequities of Iraqi occupation in Kuwait, leaving the little emirate isolated even from further sympathy. It is now Saddam's foreign minister who talks of "vicious aggression."

However evil its leader, can Arabs remain unsympathetic to Iraq much longer? Safe behind their Patriots, the Kuwaitis will be asking themselves the same question, counting the cost of America's friendship and protection as they realise the price that must be paid for these expensive commodities.

Welcome to colonial society

By Yasser Alwan

Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, to tonight's very special show. This distinguished five star hotel and one of the finest international airline companies are proud to present a jazz concert extra-ordinaire.

Of course, you all know that jazz emerged from blues, that sad but exuberant music that was borne out of the horrifying experiences of black slaves in America. The music is nothing less than a symbol of the indomitable spirit of the people who created it. Most historians believe that jazz began with Jelly Roll Morton just at the turn of the century, to be thereafter immortalised by the improvisations of the great Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong. Since the 1950s, though, jazz has grown beyond the boundaries of its traditional and spiritual home. Today, it is as international as Mozart.

So is tonight's band. These musicians have established a name for themselves throughout Europe, and they have performed around the world. Their technical mastery and expression have kept them at the forefront of the modern music scene. But please don't expect them to go all out tonight. Just look around and you'll see why.

Since I'm on stage for the moment, let me tell you what I think. First of all, you folks hardly look like the jazz concert crowd. Backstage, one of the musicians told me that he thought he was at the opera. You might honestly ask yourselves if you came to see the show or to be seen at the show. Look, see that poor fellow over there, the one wearing jeans. I really hope he wins the lottery later. Then — to his embarrassment, "I'm sure" — he'll have to walk in front of all your ties and sequins, so naked and ordinary in jeans and a button-down shirt. He must have thought he was going to the Blue Note or something. I mean if you were a musician and had a crowd that looked as rigid as you do, would you play with all your soul?

While I'm here, I'd like to talk to you about another show, the one outside this hotel, the one which each of you stars in every day. That's the one. While we're safely tucked away in this corner of the city, enveloped by our air of high culture, most other Jordanians are out there, totally unable to get in. Of course, the management and sponsors had to charge 15 dinars a pop to keep it this way. Consider that your tickets for this evening's performance cost upwards of ten per cent of the salary of an average government employee, which, by the way, is the largest single employer in the country. What do you think would happen if some less affluent people came and wowed the lottery? You can bet a good dollar that this fine international airline company is not about to give away a pair of round-trip tickets to people who can't spend money at their destination. Instead, they are offering it to you, the already privileged people who can afford to travel to Europe almost any time.

Another thing: Just consider where we are, where you all live, where you came from to see tonight's performance. We're in West — literally and figuratively — Amman. And most if not all of us never cross the psychological border to East Amman. Too much culture shock. The people there are different, aren't they? Besides, their only "culture" — not counting Jordan Television — is the occasional traditional event sponsored free of charge by the authorities. Or, for those who can afford it, mostly American high school films — those which show just enough panties and macho action to keep them coming back for more. They certainly can't be expected to appreciate jazz like you can.

We are all Arabs, so no one can accuse us of racism and bigotry towards the dwellers of East Amman. And we certainly cannot be accused of colonialism, especially by former colonialists. But that's too modern a word for us anyway. Let's use a much more appropriate term and just call ourselves a feudal bourgeoisie. For it is a fact that how the other Jordanian "half" lives is more alien to us than European lifestyles. Because all we do is protect, if not increase, our privileges and continue to build our walls higher and raise the prices to jazz concerts. Even in my short lifetime, I have seen the world change completely. But I haven't seen anything really change yet in this part of the world. Here, we make new constitutions and new laws, but we're still in colonial — sorry, feudal — times. It is a refined feudalism though, because we don't kill people with bullets anymore, at least not in the open. Instead we strangle them with our laws and decrees.

Aristotle once wrote that every city is actually two cities — a rich one and a poor one — and that they are perpetually at war with one another. I say that a country divided cannot stand — for Amman is Jordan to the rest of the world and to those of you who have travelled outside this capital and seen the neglect. The line is drawn at downtown and around the perimeter of West Amman. Not so different from the Algerian city of Algiers built during the last century to house and protect themselves while keeping the indigenous people out. The war is cultural, economic, legal, and psychological. It is also gentled and culminated: the kind of war that is fought with jazz concerts and feudal privileges.

So welcome to this embassy of sterilised culture. Welcome to plastic-wrapped, prepackaged, palatable culture. Welcome to predictability and cliché. Let's see how servicable we can make our culture. Yesterday, it was an Arab folk dance; today, it's jazz; tomorrow, it will probably be an even bigger chunk of Arab culture. This sameness we are sponsoring tonight is catered to the tastes of people — not you and me — who are defining what who Arabs should be.

I hope you enjoy the show.

LETTERS

Smile and the world smiles with you

To the Editor:

Whenever E. Yaghi ventures into the fragile world of human feelings with the simple and colourful settings that are found only in children's fairy tales, I try to figure out where the morals for the grown-ups are hidden. Sometimes I succeed, as in "Gloom Buster" (Jordan Times, Jan. 14-15, 1993), and I hope I can share my findings with some readers.

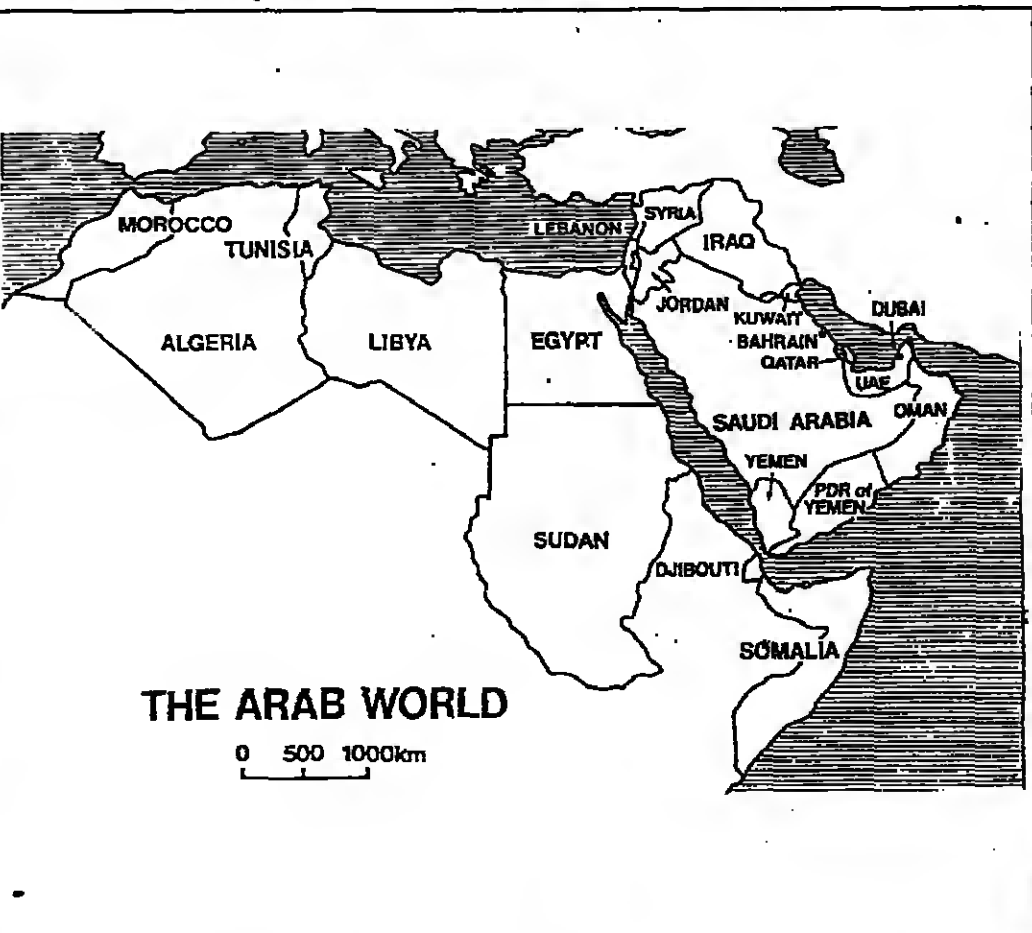
Good and evil wrestle inside us in the same way that the Gloom Buster and the Gloom Maker compete for happiness and sadness. The act of calling the former (suggested by Yaghi) implies that we make an effort to search for him inside us so that he may help us rid ourselves from gloom. Now, if we fail, as the Gloom Buster who was in the hospital for recharge or rest, we should keep on trying, just as we do with the telephone, until we get an answer. What a great accomplishment it is when we finally make the connection! We see the sun rising again and feel our hearts dancing happy rhythms on the approaching warm bridges of light and life.

The Laugh Man is the external catalyst or the wonderful switch operator who is devoted to helping make the connection. No wonder everybody loves him; he is the good friend whom you love and trust and can be totally yourself with.

So remember: If the Gloom Buster does not answer, go find the Laugh Man.

Hassan El Baroudi,
WHO/CEHA,
P.O. Box 926967,
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.



هنا من العالم

Allies unleash fresh attacks on Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

Gulf war. U.S. officials said the significance of the attack was in its proximity to Baghdad and the sea of power.

At least two houses were destroyed in the area, most window glass was shattered and apparent missile fragments rested in backyards.

"This is Bush's fault," said Moheem Ali Muhammad as he pointed to bloodstains left by his three small daughters injured by flying glass.

"What child deserves this? I should leave this place as a museum for killings," said the businessman, whose wife and daughters were hospitalized.

Defence Department officials said that a Baghdad hotel in which two civilians were killed was hit by a U.S. navy cruise missile.

A senior military official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the Defence Department had concluded that a Tomahawk cruise missile fired in Sunday's attack had been knocked off its intended course and exploded at the Al-Rashid Hotel.

The missile was knocked off course by Iraqi anti-aircraft fire, the official said. It was fired from a navy ship as part of Sunday's 40-missile attack.

"We regret the loss of life," the Pentagon official said.

Iraq said its forces had shot down eight of the U.S. cruise missiles.

"President Saddam Hussein has ordered to honour the fighters who downed missiles of the aggressors on Jan. 17," Baghdad Radio said quoting a military spokesman.

The radio said the president had awarded each military unit "half a million dinars for each missile shot." Half a million dinars is \$1.6 million at the official rate of \$2,500 on the black market.

At the Al Rashid Hotel a furious worker shouted, "Bush has blood on his hands."

A funeral cortege for the two hotel victims, including a military band, passed by the Al Rashid. The coffins were draped in Iraqi flags. One of the victims was a hotel receptionist.

The 14-storey hotel is home to many visiting journalists, several of whom were injured by the blast. It also was the site for the sixth world Popular Islamic Conference, a group of academics and religious officials from Muslim nations. The Iraqi News Agency said the conference was called to condemn allied aggression against Iraq.

The first of Monday's daytime attacks was carried out by 75 U.S., British and French aircraft against Iraqi missile sites in the south, where the allies had barred Iraqi flights since August.

An Iraqi military spokesman said allied aircraft struck nine military positions in Dhi Qar province and the city of Nassariya in southern Iraq and south of Mosul in the north, the Iraqi News Agency reported.

The agency said two raids south of Mosul were driven off by Iraqi defences, but made no claims of allied aircraft being hit.

Baghdad said three civilians were killed and 30 wounded in Sunday's missile attack.

Last Wednesday's allied air

raids on anti-aircraft batteries in southern Iraq killed 17 soldiers and two civilians and wounded 15 people, it said.

A Pentagon official said the second attack Monday was flown against anti-aircraft batteries in the north after their radars targeted coalition planes, indicating they were ready to fire.

Air raid sirens went off in Doha, Saudi Arabia, which allied warplanes are using in the campaign against Iraq, and in Kuwait City as rumours circulated that Iraq had fired a Scud missile. Military and aviation officials could not confirm any attack.

The allies say they are trying to force Iraq to honour the U.N. resolutions that set the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire.

In announcing Monday's attacks, White House spokesman Paul Clarke said:

"This action has been undertaken in response to Iraqi moves to reconstitute its surface-to-air missile systems in the region south of the 32nd Parallel and to Iraq's openly proclaimed policy of challenging the no-fly zones."

Further provocations by Iraq "will be dealt with forcefully and without warning," he said.

The Iraqi newspaper Babel called Sunday night's attack a crime and lashed out at Mr. Bush.

"George Bush wanted to end his black record and vindicate his defeat with a new bloodbath against the Iraqi people," the paper said.

Iraq also vowed Monday to fight on for the right to control its land, sea and airspace.

State radio quoted Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan as saying: "Iraq categorically rejects violation of its sovereignty whether in land, sea or air."

"Any infringement of any of these (air, sea or skies) means submission to the principle of division," said Mr. Ramadan.

He urged the U.N. Security Council to uphold Iraqi sovereignty rather than undermine it.

"The sovereignty of the country is an indivisible part and the duty of the Security Council is to preserve countries' sovereignty and not to issue resolutions to divide them according to the wishes of the United States, Britain and France."

Iraq's U.N. envoy said that Baghdad expected more attacks against it because it was U.S. government policy to use military force.

He repeated Baghdad's vow to retaliate against any future bombing by U.S.-led forces, saying "we have the right to retaliate and do whatever we could in self-defence."

Nizar Hamdoun, speaking to Reuters television, said: "It has been a policy of the American administration to use military force so it (the latest raids) is just a continuation of that."

"We always have expected and we still are expecting more attacks," he said in answer to questions.

Mr. Hamdoun, however, said he did not know what the next step would be in possibly authorising flights by U.N. weapons inspectors and guaranteeing their safety, one reason for the allied attacks.

Asked if the ball was now in Iraq's court, he said: "The ball is

lost somewhere in between."

The U.N. special commission, in charge of destroying Iraq's dangerous weapons, before Monday's allied attack had notified Iraq of plans to fly inspectors into the country Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

But U.N. sources said they did not expect an answer quickly in light of the raids.

Mr. Hamdoun said Iraq was gratified by support from Arab states, but would not elaborate.

"We get all kinds of support from the Arab World, either back home or at the United Nations," he said.

Iraq meanwhile, removed its last police posts and officers from Kuwait two days after a deadline for their withdrawal, the United Nations said.

This removed a secondary but nagging cause of friction between the Western powers and Iraq.

Concern in Kuwait persisted over possible reprisals for the continued U.S.-led allied attacks on Iraq.

Nerves in the emirate were tested when security staff escorted passengers at the airport to air raid shelters for 12 minutes as a precaution against a possible Iraqi attack which did not materialise.

Kuwait Television broadcast civil defence instructions to the estimated 1.4 million people of the emirate.

The U.N.'s Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNKOM) said Iraq dismantled and removed equipment from three of the six posts on Sunday and the remaining three Monday.

"Today the senior Iraqi liaison officer informed UNKOM headquarters that all of the Iraqi police posts had been removed," UNKOM spokesman Abdul Latif Kabaj told Reuters.

"UNKOM has carried out physical inspections of each Iraqi post and can confirm that everything has been removed."

Kuwait's Defence Minister Sheikh Al Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah said the emirate would ask France and Britain to send troops to join Kuwaiti fighting units near the north and north-western border areas.

A U.S. task force started arriving in Kuwait last week.

The requests would be made under defence accords signed with Britain and France.

In other developments Monday:

— Iraq's information minister said his country was prepared to enter talks but would not be terrorised by repeated air strikes.

Hamed Yousef Hamadi, standing next to a large crater beside the smashed lobby of Al Rashid Hotel, told reporters:

"The people in the Bush administration and the allies have to come to a diplomatic, political solution. Fighting will not achieve anything."

The Turkish Foreign Ministry said coalition planes based in Turkey had not been involved in Monday's allied attacks at targets in southern Iraq.

A senior U.S. defence official said the raid by 75 U.S., British and French warplanes in southern Iraq was "to finish the job" against anti-aircraft missile batteries and radar defence sites missed in allied raids last week.

Financial markets shrugged off the latest raids on Iraq, with oil prices showing only a modest rally midway through Monday's European dealings.

The dollar fell, gold inched higher and stock prices were slightly lower as traders found no motivation in the allied attacks on Iraq.

Unlike the Gulf war two years ago, which threw world markets into wild gyrations amid fears that prolonged fighting could disrupt crucial Mideast oil supplies and wreck industrialised economies, this latest combat is being greeted with a collective yawn by the financial community.

— Britain said significant damage had been inflicted on Iraq's remaining air defences in the southern "no-fly" zone during the latest raids and warned Baghdad further action would be taken if necessary.

"If the Iraqis still refuse to comply with United Nations resolutions, the government will not shrink from considering the need for further action in consultation with coalition partners," Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said.

Mr. Rifkind told parliament

early indications were that Monday's allied air attacks had inflicted "further significant damage... on Iraq's residual air defences in the southern 'no-fly' zone," although damage assessments were continuing.

Four British Tornado GR1 attack aircraft and two Victor tankers were among the planes that took part in the operation.

— Seventy-five allied warplanes, including six French Mirage 2000 RDI fighters flying air cover, took part, the French defence ministry announced.

The French fighters, plus a KC-135 refuelling tanker, returned safely to bases in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, after the raid, a ministry spokesman announced.

— The Vatican denied an Italian news agency report that Iraq had asked Pope John Paul II to mediate between Baghdad and Washington.

Chief spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls was responding to questions about a report that Baghdad's ambassador to the Vatican, Wissam Shawkat Al Zahawi, had made a specific request.

"There has been no appeal from Saddam Hussein (to the Pope) and no request for mediation as such," Mr. Navarro-Valls told Reuters.

The Italian news agency Adn Kronos said Mr. Wissam, who had a meeting last Friday with the Vatican's Archbishop Jean-Louis

Tauran, had asked the Pope to mediate "to put an immediate end to this aggression without any legal foundation."

— The Iraqi factory destroyed Sunday contained metalworking machinery and had been visited four times by United Nations inspectors, U.N. official Rolf Ekeus was quoted as saying.

The complex was probably not

an essential part of Iraq's weapons strategy, Mr. Ekeus, Swedish executive chairman of the U.N. special commission in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, was quoted by the evening Aftonbladet newspaper as saying.

"All equipment that can only be used for military purposes had been destroyed. Equipment which can be used for both milit-

ary and civilian purposes was still there, but we had it under strict control," Mr. Ekeus said.

Aftonbladet did not say where the interview took place, and the Swedish foreign ministry said Mr. Ekeus was not in Sweden.

— Germany gave its full support to the strikes against Iraq, saying Baghdad had brought them on itself.

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Sultanate of Oman

King voices deep regret over flare-up

(Continued from page 1)

ongoing conflict as a nation and put an end to the fragmentation and destruction of the Arab World.

While voicing support for "the Iraqi people and Iraq's sovereignty over its land and space," the King indicated major differences with the Iraqi regime.

"We haven't been able to see eye-to-eye with the Iraqi leadership... we haven't been able to understand why actions were taken (by it)," the King said.

"Nobody sought our advice; nobody listened to our advice," he said.

Asked whether he agreed that the West was applying double standards in dealing with problems of the region, King Hussein said: "One problem receives more attention than others."

The King said he was looking forward to a better world where "we have to agree on principles and standards and ideals and apply them everywhere equally."

The United States and its Western allies have been severely condemned for applying double standards in responding to conflicts in the area. Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Parliament and the press contrast the swift U.S. action on Iraq with Washington's silence over Israel's rejection of United Nations Security Council Resolution 799 on the repatriation of 415 Palestinians it expelled to South Lebanon last month.

"We are extremely disturbed by what is happening in the occupied territories," the King told reporters.

King Hussein said he had had no contacts with the United States over the latest tension in

the area but hoped "this will be the case" in the future.

"I say this despite the bitterness and sadness of the moment; and I say this as an old friend of the United States," the King said.

Describing relations with Oman as excellent, King Hussein said his trip to Oman "was a good step on the road towards ideal relations" with the Sultanate.

The King, who arrived at Amman military airport at 4.30 p.m., was received by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, members of the royal family, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament and Cabinet members and other officials.

The Lower House Monday condemned the U.S. attack on Iraq and urged Arab states to seek a united front in the face of what it referred to as "the common danger."

In a statement issued Monday, the House denounced "the continued U.S. aggression against Iraq and the Iraqi people," and rejected all arguments to justify the attacks.

The statement said the Jordanian people decry the Western "encroachment on the sovereignty of Iraq" in violation of international law.

Condemning what it saw as double standards in implementing United Nations resolutions, the House voiced solidarity with the Iraqi people.

Minister of Information Mahmoud Al Sharif called on Iraq and the United Nations to solve the current conflict through peaceful dialogue in order to avoid military escalation which he said serves no purpose.

ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that the intensive course in modern standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on January 30, 1993, and will last for 16 weeks.

The programme is intensive and classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. Evening classes meet three days a week: Saturday, Monday and Wednesday.

Those interested, please call at the Language Centre for registration. (Registration begins on Saturday 23.1.1993)

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AC Milan extend unbeaten streak to 51

ROME (Agencies) — AC Milan extended its Italian League-record unbeaten streak to 51 games, using Daniele Massaro's 21st-minute goal to beat Brescia 1-0 and maintain its eight-point lead atop the first division.

Brescia, 14th in the 18-team League with a 4-6-6 record, hampered its cause early in the match when Romanian striker Florin Raducioiu was ejected for arguing with the referee after being fouled.

Milan's victory improved its record to 13-3-0, keeping pace ahead of second-placed and cross-town rival Internazionale, which beat Parma 2-1 at San Siro Stadium.

In other 10th-round games Sunday, Juventus beat Pescara 2-1; Napoli beat Lazio of Rome 2-1; Fiorentina and Torino drew 0-0; Cagliari and Foggia tied 1-1; AS Roma and Sampdoria of Genoa drew 0-0; Ancona beat Udinese 1-0; and Genoa beat Atalanta of Bergamo 1-0.

At Milan, Ruben Sosa scored one goal and assisted on the game-winner, rallying Inter from a 1-0 deficit in the second half. Italian Olympian Alessandro Melli gave Parma the lead in the 20th minute, beating an inattentive Walter Zenga from outside the penalty area.

But Sosa tied the game in the 68th minute and then setup up Nicola Berti in the 74th.

At Turin, Roberto Baggio scored twice, the game winner coming with 12 minutes remaining, to end Juventus five-match winless streak. A volley off a cross by Antonio Conte gave Juventus the lead in the 11th minute, but Stefano Ferretti's header tied it seven minutes later. Baggio's second goal increased his season total to 10, handed Pescara its 11th loss of the season and kept it in last place, two points behind Ancona.

At Naples, Daniel Fonseca scored his 11th goal of the season and Massimo Crippa and Antonio Careca also scored to pace Napoli to its third consecutive



AS Roma's Claudio Caniggia (center, up) and Sampdoria's Roberto Mancini (center, front) during the Italian First Division soccer championship match that ended with a 0-0 draw (AFP photo).

and extended its winless streak to six games.

Crippa gave Napoli the lead in the 29th minute off an assist from Jonas Thern and Fonseca added the eventual game winner in the 59th. Antonio Careca made it 3-0 in the 70th before Lazio's Giuseppe Signori scored with 12 minutes remaining to increase his League leading total to 17, three more than Udinese's Abel Balbo.

At Florence, after a 4-0 drubbing at Udinese last Sunday, new Fiorentina coach Aldo Agroppi fielded just one striker, Gabriel Batistuta, and finished with a goalless draw. The draw was Torino's ninth of the season, the most of any first-division club.

which won for only the fourth time this season and remained in next-to-last place, three points behind AS Roma.

Deportivo and Barcelona score wins

Spain's top two, Deportivo Coruna and Barcelona, both won 2-1 at home stretching their lead at the head of the table.

Coruna remain two points clear of Barcelona, who have a game in hand. Third placed Real Madrid, who drew 1-1 at Atletico Madrid Saturday, are now four points behind Coruna.

Champions Barcelona struggled to overcome Osasuna despite controlling the match. During the first half Barcelona had seven clear strikes at goal with two shots rebounding off the woodwork, but it was 62 minutes before they opened the scoring with Jose Baquero knocking in a shot from close quarters.

Eleven minutes later Osasuna's Polish striker Roman Kosecki was fouled in the box, winning a penalty which he converted.

But Barcelona clinched victory in the 79th minute after a mix-up in the Osasuna defence let in Juan Golcochea.

Coruna maintained their recent good form, beating lowly Real Oviedo.

Brazilian Striker Jose Beбето opened the scoring with a penalty, his 18th goal of the season for Coruna, strengthening his position as the first division's leading marksman.

Oviedo defender Luis Elcacho, protesting against the penalty decision, earned himself a second yellow card and expulsion.

Coruna striker Claudio Barragan, made it 2-0 in the 50th minute. Croat Janko Jankovic snatched a goal back for Oviedo just before the end.

Sevilla's Diego Maradona inspired his side to a 2-0 win at Real Burgos with two beautifully floated free kicks which were struck home by Ricardo Bango and Dawor Suker.



Hakeem Olajuwon goes up for another basket.

Houston's Nigerian centre takes charge

HOUSTON (AP) — For the man they call "Hakeem the dream," this weekend's game was a dream performance.

Hakeem Olajuwon had a season-high 42 points, tied for the team lead with six assists and grabbed 12 rebounds. And to cap the awesome performance, he blocked the final shot, preserving Houston's 104-102 NBA victory over the New York Knicks.

"Is he unbelievable or what?" the Rockets' Winston Garland said after the win. "Hakeem is the world's best centre. I've never seen anybody better."

At least not this week, not even Knicks centre Patrick Ewing, who led New York with 20 points and 15 rebounds.

"Hakeem just got hot," Ewing said. "He was hitting everything he threw up."

Olajuwon's point total was his highest in three seasons and the most any Rockets player has scored against the Knicks.

"It's up there as one of the best (Games)," Olajuwon said. "Especially considering the opponent and what happened at the pressure time of the game."

Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich applauded Olajuwon, the 29-year-old Nigerian who will turn 30 Thursday.

"And what can you say about Hakeem?" Tomjanovich said. "It was a fantastic, gutsy performance. And to close it off with a block like that ... I don't know what else he can do."

The win was the fourth straight for the Rockets (18-16). "We needed every point and I'm glad we got them," Olajuwon said. "The game was so important that if I had to do that much, I'm glad I did."

Olajuwon scored 16 points in the fourth quarter and Bullard came off the bench with 11 points in that period, including two 3-pointers midway in the final quarter.

With 18 seconds left, Olajuwon's basket gave Houston a 103-99 lead.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

JOC board convenes

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Olympic Committee (JOC) board convened Monday under chairmanship of Minister of Youth Saleh Irshaidat. The board elected Dr. Mohammad Hamdan as vice chairman and director of the executive bureau of the JOC. Dr. Mounaff Al Fawwaz was elected JOC secretary-general while Mounaff Al Huneidi, Hisham Al Tal and Brigadier-General Ibrahim Harb were elected members of the executive bureau. The JOC also approved Jordan's participation in the Asian Games due to be held in Japan in 1994.

4 basketball matches to be held today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Al Hussein play Al Orthodoxi, Al Jazireh play Al Watani, Al Jafri play Al Abbasi and Al Ahli play Homsentmen Tuesday in the First Division Basketball Championship. In the latest matches Al Orthodoxi beat Al Watani 115-40, Al Hussein defeated Al Abbasi 79-47, Al Jazireh beat Homsentmen 57-47 and Al Ahli defeated Al Jafri 95-54.

Becker falls to Jarryd in 1st round

MELBOURNE (AP) — An injured Boris Becker still was nearly good enough, but the fourth seed fell victim to mistakes and an opponent ranked No. 151 as the Australian Open got under way with a bang Monday.

Becker, the 1991 champion, was first up on Centre Court, a schedule he had requested in hopes that a quick victory and a couple of days off afterward would provide time to recuperate from a pulled right thigh muscle. Instead, Sweden's Anders Jarryd, a qualifier who won only 11 singles matches in 17 tournaments last year, hung on long enough for the injury to steadily erode Becker's power game. The German, sporting a red beard, found himself on the sidelines with a 3-0, 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2 defeat.

The men's draw already had been hurt by the pre-tournament withdrawal of Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi and Goran Ivanisevic, whom Agassi beat.

Monica Seles, the defending women's champion and top seed, overcame an early bout of rustiness and fans who mimicked her controversial grunting to breeze past Gloria Pizzichini of Italy 6-1, 6-2.

Her male counterpart, top seed and defending champion Jim Courier, struggled in the first set against Sweden's Lars Jonsson before prevailing 7-5, 6-0, 6-3.

Also advancing on the first day of the two-week, \$4.82 million tournament were No. 7 Petr Korda, No. 9 Richard Krajicek, No. 11 Guy Forget, No. 12 Carlos Costa, No. 14 Michael Stich and No. 15 Sergi Bruguera among the men, and No. 6 Conchita Mur-



World No. 4 Boris Becker of Germany aims for a backhand return in the first Centre Court match of the Australian Open (AFP photo).

tinex, No. 8 Jana Novotna, No. 9 Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere, and No. 16 Zina Garrison-Jackson in the women's draw.

The 31-year-old Jarryd, who reached No. 5 in the rankings in 1985 but has focused mostly on doubles in recent years, looked terrible and tight in losing the first four games against Becker.

But cheered by the usual strong contingent of Swedish fans, their faces painted with the blue-and-white national flag, Jarryd's play steadily improved as Becker's went downhill.

Jarryd, who said he wasn't aware of Becker's injury, was thrilled with one of his biggest victories in recent years.

"It's been a long time since I played a singles match like this," he said. "It really feels nice to do

well in a big event. I haven't played really well. I don't know why. Sometimes I thought I lost motivation."

Becker, wearing blue stretch shorts under his white tennis gear, looked uncomfortable in the cool, breezy conditions, his

serve-and-volley game virtually defused and his awkward-looking groundstrokes spraying everywhere but in the court.

"I couldn't move on my first serve," the downcast three-time Wimbledon champion said. "That's why I stayed more or less at the back. I couldn't run."

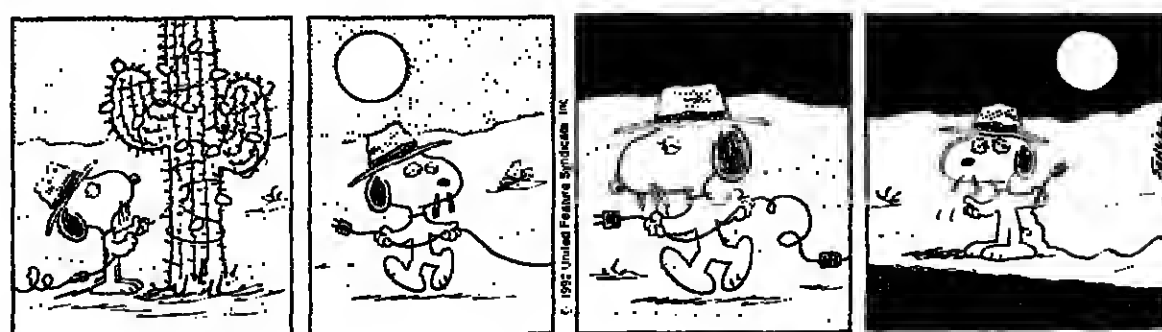
He lost his serve eight times and committed 52 unforced errors and 11 double faults — three in one game — to go with just 10 aces.

Seles, playing for the first time in nearly two months, looked up and laughed when fans started grunting every time she hit a shot during warmups.

The noise she makes when she hits virtually every ball became something of a cause celebre last year when opponents claimed it was distracting. A quiet Seles fell to Steffi Graf in the Wimbledon final, the only 1992 Grand Slam she didn't win.

"It was just funny when they started grunting. It was obvious they were having a lot of fun," said Seles, who admitted it bothered her at first. "I quickly regained my composure."

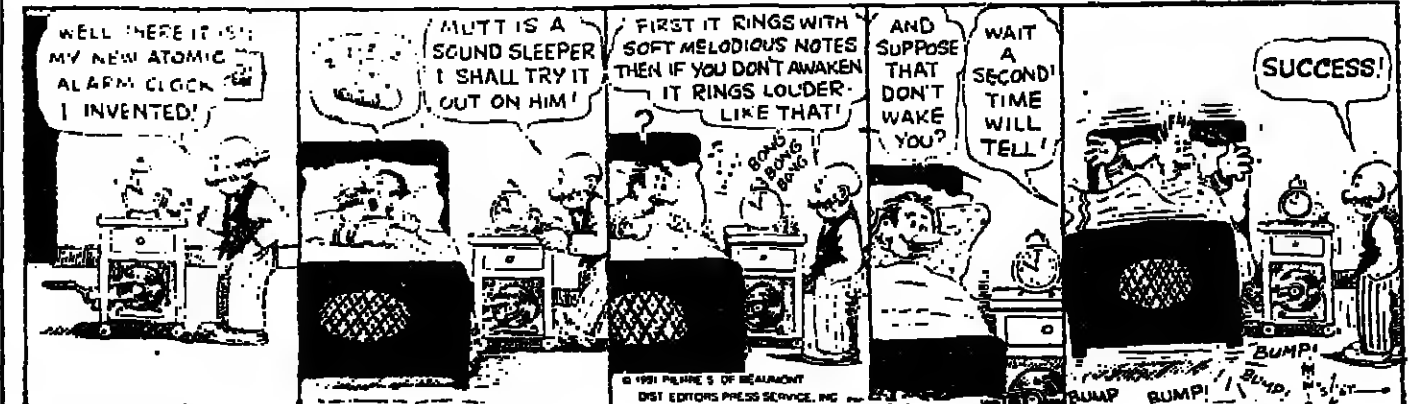
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 1993

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Sun enters Aquarius today and brings that imperceptible "something" in the air. The moon in Capricorn may make for a general sense of apathy for whatever project is being cooked up now.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Think about that materialistic course of action you have started in motion and see just how much you can make from it to add to your basic security.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You see the best means by which you can enhance your personal charm and appearance at beauty or barber salon or other areas of personal tending up.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You would be wise to devise a course of action whereby you can formulate a better plan to make your private ambitions become part of your life.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your intimate aims can be the best method by which to add to your present well-being and feeling that life is bringing you the benefits you seek.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) The various facets of your outside interests and activities are those which should be concentrated upon, so get out early and enhance your good name.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have some new plan which is excellent but you need to be

better informed of the various itemized specifics that will go to make it a success for you.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A business person is now in the mood to release to you the information you want about a practical project that is of considerable importance to you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Now you can get into the details of a practical nature with an associate who is as purposeful as you are and get better accord if you both are openminded.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Whatever you have to do that you have promised, you need today to perform such duties in a very down to earth manner then everyone will be pleased.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Lots of arrangements for future entertainment and amusements face you if you are going to have the best possible time with congenial companions.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Don't let a condition that you do not like get you down at home but view it as you would an outside concern and it will be rapidly solved.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) If on the highway today be sure that your transportation is in good shape and take care not to become in accidents from others reckless driving.

THE BETTER HALF.

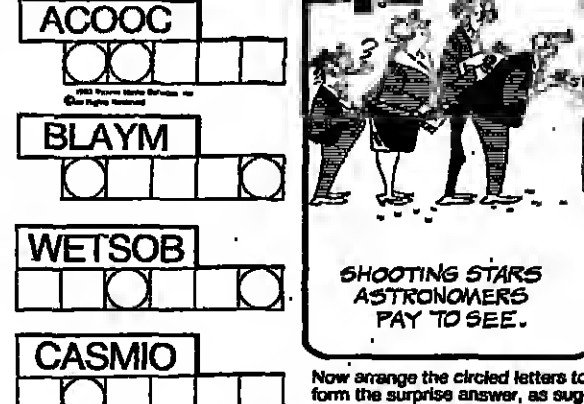
By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Harri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

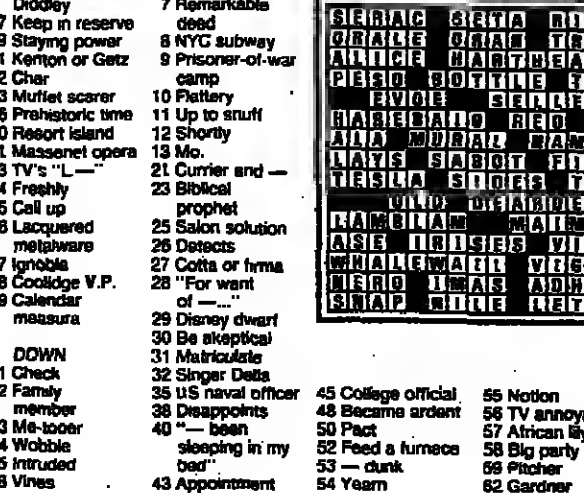
Yesterday's Jumbles: SAVOR BRIAR GYPSUM MAGNUM

Answer: These are sometimes idle, but they're troublemakers when they get going — RUMORS

THE Daily Crossword by C.F. Murray



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GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH
©1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

FORCE THE ISSUE

Both vulnerable, West deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 4
♥ A 8 7
♦ A K J 10 9 7
♣ 6

WEST ♠ A K 9 2
♥ Q 4 4
♦ 6
♣ A J 10 9 3

EAST ♠ J 7 3
♥ 10 9 3 2
♦ 8 5 2
♣ Q 7 4

SOUTH ♠ Q 10 5
♥ K 6 3
♦ Q 1 3
♣ K 8 5 2

The bidding:

West North East South

1 ♠ 1 Pass 1 NT

Pass 3 NT Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠. "It's all too easy, Hastings," remarked Hercule Poirot. "Merely an exercise of the little gray cells." It was the last hand of the local duplicate that occasioned this remark from London's greatest private sleuth. Must North-South pairs have reached three no trump on an auction such as the above. At some tables West led a black card, thereby giving declarer a ninth trick. At many tables, however,

West found the safe heart lead and all declarers at those tables were defeated a trick. All, except for Poirot when he held the South cards.

"You see, Hastings, if West has four hearts I will inevitably have to go down to defeat—I will have to lose two heart tricks, the ace of clubs and ace king of spades. Therefore, I must find West with no more than three hearts."

"Also, the ace-king of spades must be with West, otherwise East will have an entry to lead a club through my king. And lastly, I must strip West of red cards for an endplay."

"Notice it won't help to duck a heart, win the continuation and run all my diamonds. I must discard before West, and the defender simply keeps an extra card in whichever suit I am forced to unguard."

"At *contraire*, I duck the first heart, win the second and cash the remaining heart. Next come two rounds of diamonds, a vital maneuver, ending in dummy. Now a spade to the ten and, when West must win with a high honor, all is well. Down to nothing but black cards. West must give me my ninth trick in one suit or the other."

Fighting intensifies between Bosnia's Croat, Muslim allies

ZAGREB (R) — Fighting intensified between Croats and Muslims in central Bosnia Monday, splintering their civil war alliance against Serbs and undermining prospects of an international peace settlement.

Croat military and British U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) spokesmen in the region reported fierce artillery and heavy machinegun duels as well as some hand-to-hand fighting in the ethnically split town of Gornji Vakuf and nearby communities.

"This situation is totally fraught. It's hard to see any light at the end of the tunnel," a UNPROFOR spokesman told Reuters by telephone from the area where former Muslim and Croat allies have begun fighting over shares of the territorial pie envisaged at the Geneva peace conference.

Croat-Muslim tension, long simmering in west and central Bosnia, flared into fighting last week after Geneva peace mediators designated much of the region for autonomous Croat rule despite its large Muslim minority. In some pockets Muslims are even in the majority.

Political power in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which seceded from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia last March, would be devolved to 10 cantons loosely based on ethnic makeup under the peace plan.

But Muslims, Bosnia's largest community, have rebuffed the cantonal blueprint because they say it would saddle them with the least territory, bowing to Serb or Croat occupation of more than 80 per cent of the republic.

Croat-Muslim battles worsened Monday after Bosnia's Muslim army commander, Sefer Halilovic, prohibited Muslim units in three sectors earmarked by peace mediators for Croat administration from submitting to Croat command.

"Fighting is going on in Gornji Vakuf just because Mr. Halilovic has stuck by what he ordered. There is no front line," Veso Vego, spokesman for Bosnia's Croatian Defence Council (HVO) forces, said from HVO headquarters in Mostar.

The flashpoint of Croat-Muslim hostilities in Gornji Vakuf, a drab town of 5,000 people sitting on a strategic supply route between the Croat-held southwest Herzegovina region, near the Adriatic Sea, and Bosnia's disputed centre.

The British UNPROFOR spokesman said clashes had "erupted in a fairly big way" to the south and southwest of Gornji Vakuf, suggesting the conflict was escalating.

He said one town caught in the spread of fighting was Prozor, where HVO forces were reported by relief sources to have expelled Muslim inhabitants last year in an echo of Serb "ethnic cleansing" campaigns.

Meanwhile, a United Nations convoy delivered emergency food and medical supplies to a Bosnian Muslim town blocked by Serbs for nine months and left Monday to return to Sarajevo, a U.N. spokesman said.

Peter Kessler, of the office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said he did not yet have any word on the condition of the inhabitants of Zepa, previously reported to be dying from starvation and cold.

Communications with the convoy were very difficult in a remote, mountainous area, near the Serbian-Bosnian border, largely sealed off by Serb irregulars and rocked by fighting with Bosnian Muslim army forces.

The U.N. aid convoy finally reached Zepa Sunday after three futile attempts. Road blocks, including felled trees and minefields, forced it to try four different routes and spend two nights on freezing mountain trails before breaking through.

Mr. Kessler reported hold-ups of several other UNHCR convoys. Relief trucks leaving Serb-occupied Sarajevo for Vitez in central Bosnia to pick up supplies were stalled outside the capital for 11 hours at a Serb checkpoint Sunday.

Mr. Kessler said the convoy's way was blocked by 1,000 Serb women and children protesting at what they called an inadequate

distribution of U.N. supplies to Serb civilians stricken by Bosnia-Herzegovina's civil war.

Another UNHCR convoy headed for Sarajevo from an Adriatic coast supply depot turned back at a Serb roadblock outside the city after gunmen demanded 30 per cent of its cargo in exchange for passage, Mr. Kessler said.

The convoy spent the night in the Croat stronghold of Kiseljak 30 kilometres to the northwest and would try to get into the capital again Monday.

Mr. Kessler said attempted extortion of relief convoys "has been happening more and often in the past few weeks."

He also said five local relief trucks on UNHCR contracts in central Bosnia had not been heard from since Wednesday.

"They may be delayed by Croat-Muslim fighting in the region and have just decided to lie low until it abates."

Most parts of the Bosnian capital enjoyed a quiet night and Radio Sarajevo said Monday that the only fighting overnight was in the western frontline suburb of Dobrinja, which was hit by tank, mortar and cannon fire.

It added that 12 people were wounded in the besieged city Sunday.

Yugoslav and Bosnian government forces duelled with artillery in a sharp escalation of Bosnia's civil war, while Bosnian troops fought to cut off rebel Serbs from their Yugoslav allies.

Sunday's cross-border shelling marked the first time Yugoslavia has acknowledged intervening in the war since withdrawing its troops seven months ago from the former Yugoslav republic.

Serb rebels said the offensive by Bosnia's Muslim-led government near the Yugoslav border was the biggest in the region since the war began. The casualty toll was unknown, but it was clearly a bloody battle.

At least 46 Serb fighters and civilians were killed around the village of Skelani in southeastern Bosnia, the official Yugoslav News Agency, Tanjug, reported. At a cemetery in Bratunac, a

town 3 kilometres from the front, the cries of Serb women mourning their dead were drowned out by explosions from the fighting, said AP reporter Dusan Stojanovic, who visited the area.

"Damn this war," Darinka Petrovic cried out as she knelt before a cross bearing the name of her son Dragan, 25.

The Serb, whose body has not been recovered, was killed in the Bosnian offensive, which is apparently aimed at cutting a corridor linking Serb-held areas with Serbia, the dominant state in what is left of Yugoslavia.

The cemetery was dotted with at least 100 fresh graves. Some of victims were as young as 12.

In line with the Orthodox Christian Serbs' belief that there is life after death, many grave crosses were covered with shirts to keep the dead warm. Food, drinks and lighted cigarettes were also put on the graves.

Bosnian Serb villages near Bratunac, which lies along the Drina River border between Bosnia and Serbia, were gutted and ghastly, Mr. Stojanovic reported. Bare beams were all that remained of roofs, and walls were punctured by bullets and cannon blasts.

Pigs searched for food. A source at Yugoslav army headquarters in Belgrade, capital of Yugoslavia and Serbia, said Yugoslav artillery fired into Bosnia a day after Muslim forces fired into Yugoslavia.

Bosnian Serb and Yugoslav officials said that the cross-border shelling by Bosnian forces continued Sunday and that villages and a power plant in Perucac, about 40 kilometres southwest of Bratunac, were hit.

One person was killed Sunday by Bosnian fire into Serbia, Belgrade Radio said. No casualties were reported in Saturday's shelling.

The Yugoslav military "responded fiercely" to the attacks, Tanjug reported, without giving details. The source at Yugoslav army headquarters said that the response was limited to the artillery barrage and that no Yugoslav ground attack had been launched.



U.S. President-elect Bill Clinton, his wife Hillary, and daughter Chelsea wave farewell to the people of Arkansas after an airport rally. The Clinton family flew to Charlottesville, Virginia for the start of the planned bus trip to Washington D.C. (AP photo)

Clinton conquers Washington

WASHINGTON (AP) — A buoyant Bill Clinton pushed aside "the complex and massive problems" soon to confront him and stepped towards the presidency with a visit to his old campus and a talk to foreign ambassadors awaiting America's new leader.

Washington crackled with anticipation over Wednesday's ceremonial installation of a young, new president whose instincts had been shaped by neither global war nor economic depression.

Spread out as far as the eye could see, a third of a million waving, cheering, picture-taking people welcomed Mr. Clinton and Vice President-elect Al Gore and their families to the capital on a mild Sunday evening in January.

Democrats celebrated the first inauguration of one of their own in 15 years. Mr. Clinton embraced it all, throwing his head back in laughter, bugging old friends, giving the thumbs-up signal.

Renewed bombing in Iraq disrupted none of it. Mr. Clinton's hours until his investiture at noon (1700 GMT) Wednesday brim with purposeful symbolism, touching all bases — a word with the diplomatic corps, a tribute to the slain martyr of black Americans, a meal with some of society's victims.

In the first session, Mr. Clinton and Mr. Gore arranged to meet Monday with 180 foreign ambassadors at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service.

In the 1960s, Mr. Clinton was a student on that Gothic campus while working part time in the office of his home state's Senator, J. William Fulbright.

Mr. Clinton planned to observe

Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday with students at federally supported Howard University, the nation's premier black university.

And he and Mr. Gore invited to lunch 53 citizens struck by adversity whom one or the other of them had encountered during the campaign. The citizens had told of illnesses, job losses, terrible crimes to which they had fallen victim.

President George Bush stayed out of sight at the presidential retreat in the Maryland mountains. Over the weekend, he entertained members of the Supreme Court and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, his wife and three children.

The Bushes will meet the Clintons at the White House shortly before the inauguration.

Foreign problems occupied Mr. Clinton's first evening in Washington. He met for several hours at Blair House with the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Colin Powell, with Mr. Gore and Warren Christopher and Les Aspin, his nominees for secretaries of state and defence, respectively.

A somber undertone broke through Mr. Clinton's remarks as he made his way to Washington from Jefferson's home in Charlottesville, Va.

He stopped outside an old country church in the village of Warren, Va., and talked to the townsfolk of "the complex and massive problems" that await him.

He asked for national unity: "We must go forward together or not at all."

When Mr. Clinton's bus pulled in to Washington, Samuel Berger, who will serve as a foreign

policy adviser, climbed aboard to brief him on the new Iraqi bombing raids. Mr. Clinton issued a statement supporting Mr. Bush.

To the mass of people at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Mr. Clinton mentioned the hatreds on display in Bosnia, Somalia, Iraq and elsewhere.

He said the virtues of diversity, still evasive in places in America, had not yet been learned in those foreign places. "As we see today so painfully."

At that hallowed place, Mr. Clinton appealed to his countrymen to set differences aside.

"In this world and the world of tomorrow, we must go forward together or not at all," he said, and recalled Lincoln's unheeded inaugural appeal: "We are not enemies but friends. We must not be enemies."

With that, Mr. Clinton walked the length of memorial bridge to a park on the banks of the Potomac.

First he, then daughter Chelsea pulled a thick red rope, ringing a liberty bell replica. They heard thousands of bells ring in response.

Beaming in delight, Mr. Clinton applauded a message from five U.S. astronauts in the heavens above. He flashed a "thumbs up" signal.

At ceremonies across the nation, from the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial in Atlanta to the streets of San Francisco's Chinatown where a new Chinese year was welcomed in, bells rang in response.

Mr. Clinton was saluted by 21 swift jets — and serenaded by 10 of the nation's best saxophone players. Fireworks lit the Washington sky.



Japan's oldest person celebrates 114th birthday

TOKYO (R) — Japan's oldest living person, Tane Ikai, celebrated her 114th birthday in her hospital bed in the central city of Nagoya Monday, television and newspapers reported. Mrs. Ikai, who was born in Nagoya in 1879, received a birthday bouquet from the mayor. She has lived in hospital since suffering a stroke in 1988. Mrs. Ikai has outlived her four children, but has two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Bush has cleaned out his desk

WASHINGTON (AP) — George Bush may be president for another week, but he's already cleaned out his desk. The Oval Office looked unusually barren to photographers on hand as Mr. Bush signed an economic report Tuesday. White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said, "he's already taken the pictures out of his office. They're in boxes, headed to Houston." Until last week, the desk and the walls behind it were filled with pictures and mementoes. Mr. Bush will spend only a few more nights in the White House. He went to Camp David, Md., Friday and will not return until Tuesday, the eve of Bill Clinton's inauguration.

Big signs rejected as eyesore

SINGAPORE (AP) — Billboards and big advertising signs mounted atop buildings are a sight on Singapore's skyline and will be phased out, officials said. The glittering neon and prominent signs must go to achieve "a more pleasant cityscape," according to the Public Works Department. Sign companies and outdoor advertising firms have been told that no new licenses will be issued for free-standing billboards and large signs on the walls of buildings. The notification said that, while gaudy signs might have been suitable in the 1950s and 1960s, they are now unacceptable. Social engineering is the norm and the authorities often tinker with living conditions in this city-state of three million people.

'Tongue-tied' thais blast phone company

BANGKOK (R) — A powerful bomb that damaged a telecommunications office in eastern Thailand may have been planted by customers angered by the shortage of working phone booths, residents said. Local residents said they believed the bomb might have been planted by customers angered because many public telephones in Chanturathi province had been out of order for months. They said people had recently taken to laying black funeral wreaths next to broken public phones. Police said the bomb shattered windows at the provincial telephone centre and destroyed five booths.

Sinister background to Clinton's handwork

NEW YORK (R) — Bill Clinton may belong to a different political party and a different generation but he has one thing in common with the man he will replace at the White House — he is left-handed. "This year, we couldn't lose, regardless of the election outcome," said Kim Kipars, editor of Lefthanders magazine, pointing out that not only Mr. Clinton and Mr. Bush but also independent candidate Ross Perot is left-handed. Mr. Clinton's victory earned him the Lefthanders of the Year Award from Lefthanders International. Before "sinister" acquired its modern meaning it meant left-handed.

Table tennis hits sticky patch over glue ban

LONDON (R) — Substance abuse has struck the sporting world again, involving players in one of the seemingly safest of indoor events — table tennis. Instead of sniffing or shooting up, however, the recently-prohibited practice involves glueing-up — sticking the rubber surfaces of table tennis bats with fresh glue before matches to increase the speed of serves. Last month the International Table Tennis Federation outlawed glueing up within 24 hours of a match and then only with a non-toxic substance.

Angolan troops destroy rebel HQ

LISBON (R) — The Angolan rebel movement UNITA said Monday that government forces had destroyed its headquarters in the central city of Huambo, but that it had shot down a government jet and knocked out 12 tanks.

UNITA said in a statement faxed to Reuters in Lisbon that more than 500 people had died during the last week of fighting in Huambo, which it said was mostly in UNITA hands.

Angolan state radio meanwhile reported clashes around the northwestern oil town of Soyo, the supply base of a mainly onshore oilfield that accounts for a third of Angola's \$50,000 barrel per day production.

UNITA forces encircling Soyo were receiving support from Zairean troops ferried across the nearby border by boat, the Portuguese News Agency (LUSA) quoted state radio as saying.

Diplomats in Lisbon who follow events in Angola closely, said they expected UNITA to try to capture Soyo within the next three days.

UNITA said in its latest statement that it wanted an end to the renewed civil war, which broke out two weeks ago, ripping apart a 1991 peace agreement that ended 16 years of conflict.

Angola lapsed back into the full-scale fighting after UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rejected its defeat by the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) in elections last September.

But it said it was determined to teach the government a military lesson before going back to the negotiating table.

"UNITA does not refuse to negotiate but it will never agree to negotiate with a knife at its throat," the statement said.

"Let us wait for developments in all the theatres of combat for the (ruling) MPLA and its allies to understand that what happened in Luanda between Oct. 30 and Nov. 1 is not only unacceptable but will have its reply," UNITA said.

This effectively threatened revenge for a government crackdown in the Angolan capital two months ago which culminated UNITA's presence there.

Thousands were killed in this bloody offensive which followed UNITA's rejection of its defeat by the MPLA in the U.N.-supervised elections and the movement's occupation of a large swathe of the interior.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Gunmen kill 9 in S. Africa ambush

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Gunmen killed nine people and wounded several others in an ambush on a minibus in Natal province, police said. A police spokesman said two unidentified gunmen opened fire on the minibus near Pietermaritzburg, a focus of violence in an eight-year battle for political control of black townships in the Zulu dominated Natal province. He said the driver and two passengers escaped before the vehicle overturned and plunged down an embankment. The gunmen fired into the wrecked bus, killing nine people and wounding a number of others. Human rights monitors have said more than 12,500 people have died since 1984 in fighting between Nelson Mandela's African National Congress and Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party and in conflict with police and government troops.

Storm creates havoc in California

LOS ANGELES (R) — Rain-weary residents battled flood waters and mudslides after another fierce winter storm raked soggy southern California, causing at least seven deaths and forcing thousands of people out of their homes. Across the U.S.-Mexican border in Tijuana, the latest storm system brought the death toll to 27 after two weeks of steady rain inundated the city's shantytowns. Nearly 6,000 people were left homeless. After enduring six years of drought, southern California has been drenched by record rainfall over the past 10 days. As of Sunday, Los Angeles had received just over 15 inches (38 cm) of rain since the beginning of the season in July — slightly more than its normal average for an entire year. The storm was blamed for at least seven deaths in southern California. A family of five was killed Sunday in Riverside County when their pickup truck was trapped in rising flood waters, police said. A 44-year-old man drowned Friday after being swept into a creek in long beach. One storm-related death was reported in Arizona, which was suffering its worst flooding in a decade.

Hawaiians march for sovereignty

HONOLULU (AP) — About 10,000 native Hawaiians and their supporters marched to the former royal palace, denouncing the U.S. government for its part in the overthrow of their island queen a century ago. Yet amid the calls Sunday for more Hawaiian sovereignty was disagreement about what exactly that meant. Sentiments range from those seeking only an official apology from the United States to those calling for an independent Republic of Hawaii. "They (Americans) are our enemies, they took our lands, they imprisoned our queen, they have harnessed our language, they forcibly made us a colony of the United States," shouted Haunani Trask, a University of Hawaii professor and leader of Ka Lahui Hawaii. Her group supports more autonomy for native Hawaiians within the current state and federal system. Sunday's march and other events climaxed five days of activities commemorating Queen Liliuokalani's overthrow. It included Gov. John Waihe'e's decision to remove the U.S. flag from state buildings in the capital district of Honolulu until Monday.

Pro-independence rally held in Crimea

MOSCOW (AP) — More than 10,000 pro-Russia protesters marched through the Black Sea port of Sevastopol Sunday to demand Ukraine allow a referendum on independence for Crimea, news reports said. The rally was organised by two groups seeking independence for the strategic southern region, the Interfax News Agency reported. The protesters accused the Ukraine government of pursuing nationalist policies and called for a referendum on independence no later than March 1994. Interfax said.

Special court to try rulers — Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia plans to amend its constitution so that hereditary rulers, currently immune to the law, could face trial in a special court, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad said Monday. "There will be no immunity from the law that applies to everybody else except that the court is different," the national Bernama News Agency quoted Mr. Mahathir as saying.

U.N. seeks release of troops held by Khmer Rouge

PHNOM PENH (R) — The Militant Khmer Rouge have failed to respond to U.N. demands for the immediate release of four U.N. peacekeepers detained by the guerrilla faction since Sunday, the U.N. spokesman said.

"So far we have been unable to get a response from the NADK (Khmer Rouge) why these men are being detained and when they will be freed," Eric Falt, spokesman for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), said Monday.

The four, a British lieutenant commander and Royal Marines sergeant, a Chilean Marine and a Cambodian interpreter, were taken prisoner shortly after mid-day Sunday in strife-torn central Kompong Thom province.

Mr. Falt said it was the sixth time in two months that Khmer Rouge guerrillas had detained peacekeepers against their will. Over the past two months, the Khmer Rouge has detained scores of UNTAC personnel and in one incident last month threatened to execute prisoners.

Mr. Miyazawa talking to Japanese reporters in Brunei Sunday, said he could not support a ruling party plan to open formal discussions in parliament on amending the 1947 constitution.

Some senior figures in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) want to ensure Japanese peacekeeping troops, sent abroad to take part in U.N.-sanctioned operations, are not barred from operating in war zones, where they might need to defend themselves.

Mr. Miyazawa made clear he considered this unacceptable. "It would still involve the use of force even if the troops were acting under the framework of the United Nations," he said at the end of a four-nation tour of South East Asia.

His comments were carried by all Japan's leading dailies. "Japan must not repeat its mistakes (of World War II)," Mr. Miyazawa said, referring to the imperial army's invasion and

French, Germans join march against racism

STRASBOURG (R) — Several thousand French and German demonstrators have marched together in the French border city of Strasbourg to call for a Europe free of racism, anti-Semitism and Xenophobia.

About 3,000 Germans and 1,500 French people met on Europe Bridge over the River Rhine which marks the border, then gathered later for a rally on the French side.

Members of the Strasbourg-based European Parliament and a visiting delegation of U.S. congressmen joined the demonstrations, called by anti-racist organisations, Unions and Immigrant Workers' Groups in the two countries.

Foreigners in Germany have been the targets of firebombings and assaults by racist extremists

Manila wants U.S. to defend sea lanes

MANILA (AP) — A year after the Philippines ordered U.S. forces out of the country, the foreign secretary said Monday the Clinton administration should continue an American military presence in the Far East.

"We see the need for an effective U.S. military presence in the region because we think the continued U.S. presence will translate into sustained economic

growth within the region," Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo told reporters.

"The U.S. should remain committed to defending the sea lanes in the Pacific and in the South East Asian lake," he added.

U.S. ability to provide such defence was impaired by the September 1991 decision by the Philippine Senate to reject a new, 10-year lease for the Subic Bay

Naval Base, which had been a key part of the American security umbrella.

U.S. and Philippine officials then began talks on a multilateral withdrawal. But the talks broke down and the government of former President Corason Aquino ordered U.S. troops to leave by the end of 1992.

The last troops departed Subic in November.

Miyazawa rules out bigger overseas role for army

TOKYO (R) — Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has ruled out any revision of Japan's constitution to increase the army's international role, news reports said Monday.

Mr. Miyazawa talking to Japanese reporters in Brunei Sunday, said he could not support a ruling party plan to open formal discussions in parliament on amending the 1947 constitution.

Some senior figures in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) want to ensure Japanese peacekeeping troops, sent abroad to take part in U.N.-sanctioned operations, are not barred from operating in war zones, where they might need to defend themselves.

Mr. Miyazawa left Brunei for home Monday at the end of a week-long visit to four of the six members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Japanese officials said Mr. Miyazawa's meetings with leaders of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Brunei underlined Tokyo's efforts to promote discussion on new directions for Japan and ASEAN in the post-cold war era.

Leaders of the remaining two ASEAN members — the Philip-

pines and Singapore — will visit Japan in the first half of this year, the officials said.

Mr. Miyazawa met Brunei ruler and Prime Minister Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah Sunday. He was seen off at the Brunei International Airport by Finance Minister Prince Jefri Bolkiah.

The officials said Mr. Miyazawa was impressed by the region's strong economic growth and political stability.

"My impression has indeed confirmed that this region offers the brightest prospect among the various regions," Mr. Miyazawa was quoted as saying by a senior official.

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